# The Middleburry Campus

www.middleburycampus.com

VOL. 102 NO. 16 | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2004 | SINCE 1905


## Students mobilize to save J-Term

By Taylor Johnston
*Staff Writer*

The Student Government Association (SGA) roared into its campaign to save J-Term last week after the Educational Affairs Committee released two proposals to amend the academic calendar and the faculty began to debate the issue at its February meeting. The student body has already responded with fervor as the SGA continues its efforts to raise student awareness about the possible demise of J-Term.

SGA members passed out over 1,000 flyers to students at all three dining halls on Wednesday, Feb. 18, and continued distribution this week on Tuesday in hope of generating dialogue between professors and students over the issue.

Thus far in their efforts, the SGA has stressed the importance of students sharing their sentiments

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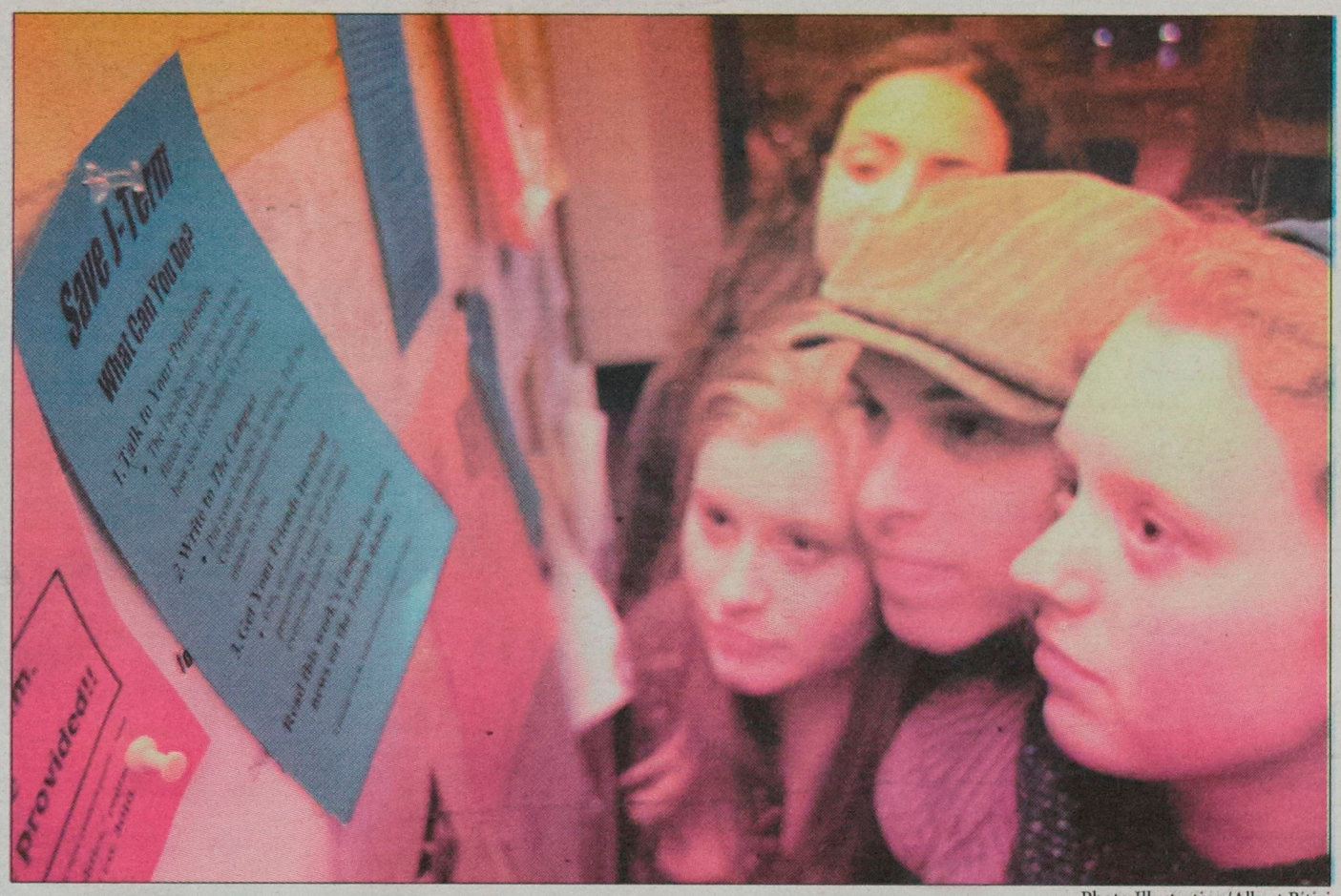


Photo Illustration/Albert Bitici

**Crowding around a busy bulletin board in McCullough, students peruse pro-J-Term propaganda posted by members of the SEAC.**

## Point system renovates room draw policy

By Meredith Kernan
*Staff Writer*

After months of research, number crunching, brainstorming and consulting, the Room Draw Committee has received the go-ahead from Old Chapel on its proposal for a revamped room draw system, to be adopted this April.

According to the new proposal, block draw will be eliminated and housing priority will be based on a new points-based system that rewards both seniority and commons loyalty. The committee was asked to devise a room draw process that would allow many rising sophomores to continue in their commons, said Dean of Cook Commons and Committee Chair David Edleson. "When our committee met, we decided that there were two different goals," Edleson explained. "One is to make sure that seniority is still a primary operating principle to allow seniors in particular as much flexibility as we can and to try to begin the process of roughly equalizing the numbers in each class and each commons. The other was to make sure anyone, particularly sophomores, who wanted to continue [in their commons], can continue."

To address the first concern of honoring seniority, the committee decided that block draw would need to be completely changed.

As of three years ago, block draw was determined by a commons-blind chip lottery system, which, according to the Committee, worked fine until LaForce Hall was completed.

"When LaForce came online for room draw, we were told that it had to be a part of continuing commons," said Edleson. "We made a decision that all senior blocks would be part of the system we have used the last few years, where one person from one commons could draw in everybody. The result of that has been great for some people, but it doesn't fit in with the idea of continuing commons."

Starting this spring, block draw will be based on a system of points as opposed to random numbers or chips. Every student will receive one seniority point for each fall and spring semester that they have completed as an enrolled Middlebury student. Juniors who have spent time abroad will receive a point for their semesters abroad. Additionally, Febs in their first semester at Middlebury will be granted one point to ensure that they are not continually lagging

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### CASHING IN FOR THE BIG GAME

Vlad Lodoaba

**Perennial hockey fans Eric Ambrette '04 (left) and Ryan Kelley '05.5 (right) shell out cash to purchase tickets for this Saturday's NESCAC ice hockey playoff opner. Tickets went on sale to Middlebury students Tuesday afternoon.**

## English, Am Lit majors could merge

By Claire M. L. Bourne
*Managing Editor*

In separate votes the English and American Literature and Civilization Departments decided last week to move forward with talks that could ultimately result in the creation of a single "English and American Literature" department and major.

The American Literature and Civilizations Department voted 7-2 in favor of drafting a concrete proposal for the curricular and structural make-up of the new department. The English Department recorded a vote of 12-3 in support, as well.

"Both departments talked, and both departments have had votes to go further with this," said English Department Chair John Elder. "A joint committee will convene soon. There are many questions still to answer."

Elder and American Literature and Civilizations Department Chair Brett Millier first broached the idea of combining the two departments early last fall. Initially, they considered creating an English Literature and American Literature joint major to allow students to "profit from the full range of lit-

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# MIDDBRIEFS

BY ELIZABETH CAMPBELL, CAROLINE STAUFFER AND DAN SHEA

## Health Center seeks assistant director

The Parton Health Center has recently established a new position, associate director of the Health Center, intended to provide Middlebury College students with more efficient and attentive health care. While the interviewing process for the position has not yet begun, the Health Center is looking for prospective applicants who possess a background in nursing, administration and health education and who are able to interact well with students.

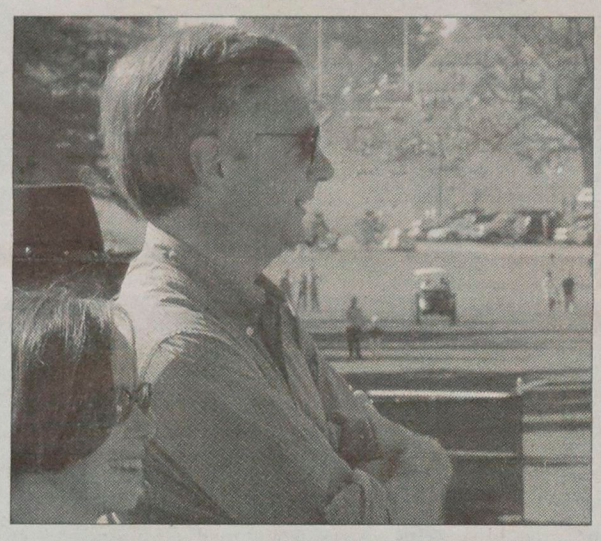
The responsibilities of the associate director combine administrative functions and health education and include additional components such as staff supervision, credentialing and budget management.

"To find that perfect candidate, we are not just looking regionally but nationally as well," said Director of Health Center and Head Team Physician Dr. Mark Peluso. "Our main priority is the students, so much time is being devoted to finding an appropriate candidate," he said.

The Health Center and Peluso are currently making an effort to increase available patient appointment times.

"It will take a lot of time to find a quality match for this job," said Peluso. "We want to scrutinize the applicants to make sure we are selecting the best candidate overall."

## McCardell to judge Winter Carnival talent



Students participating in the night club talent show Friday night — sponsored by Winter Carnival — will see a familiar face in the judges stand, President John McCardell. Ryan Kelley '05.5 and Cook Commons Dean David Edleson will also judge. The show — Camp Micowica 81st Annual Talent Show — will take place at 7 p.m. and again at 9:30 in McCullough social space.

Because enough Winter Carnival packages — more than any other year — were sold to fill both night shows, no tickets were sold in advance.

Director Susan Harnett '05 believes, however, that tickets will still be available at the door because in past years not all students with tickets have attended.

McCardell offered a few words of advice for participants. "They should lose themselves in their subject, not be intimidated by the audience, throw themselves into their performance and make it all seem natural and fun," he said.

## Social houses rush into spring

Spring rush is underway for the Middlebury College Social Houses. Of the six social houses, only three, Omega Alpha (Tavern), Kappa Delta Rho (KDR) and Xenia House, are offering rush events this semester. Alpha Delta Phi (ADP) and the Mill have opted out, and Zeta Theta Phi's (ZOO's) recent self-imposed sanction does not permit the house to recruit new members for the spring.

Rush is a 12-day period for interested upperclassmen to "learn what being a member of one of the houses is about," explained Inter House Council Co-President Kris Burfitt '05. KDR rush posters indicate that most nights offer a different activity at the house, including video game tournaments and making s'mores. At the end of rush, students who have been to at least three events at a house may submit a bid to pledge that house. About 40 to 45 students are rushing this year. Burfitt estimates that 15 to 20 students are rushing Tavern, while KDR officer Chris Geier '06 estimates that 25 students are rushing KDR. In other semesters, when ADP and ZOO have offered rush events, as many as 85 to 140 students have participated in rush.

# Where are the 'Deaniacs'?

File Photo/Julia Randall

**Deprived of their candidate, Middlebury Deaniacs are forced to redirect their support in the upcoming presidential election.**

By Amanda Goodwin
*Staff Writer*

The ubiquitous Nalgene stickers and pins bearing his name have disappeared. His signs have been dismantled. Howard Dean has left Vermont. Or has he? In an interesting political irony, Howard Dean, who ended his candidacy for president last week, may receive his greatest support yet in the Green Mountain State. According to professor of political science Eric Davis, an expert on the election process, Dean is expected to surpass his strong 30 percent showing in the Washington state caucuses and earn a second place finish behind current frontrunner John Kerry in the March 2 Vermont primary.

Where have all the Dean volunteers gone? Despite the bright news expected March 2, Dean supporters on campus still face the decision of jumping on the Kerry bandwagon, supporting one of the remaining candidates — John Edwards or Dennis Kucinich — or shifting their political efforts altogether by volunteering for local Vermont elections.

Jordan Sax '04, who worked for Dean in Iowa, New Hampshire and Vermont, chose to remain undecided. "Almost everyone I know who volunteered for Dean would never work for Kerry, though they would vote for him as a Democrat who could beat George Bush," he said.

Sax cited Kerry's "tendency to never take a position on anything when it is not popular" as his primary reason to oppose the Massachusetts Senator's presidential bid. "It's distressing to see what we're up against to effect change," he continued. "I'd like to feel that I did everything possible to see that Bush loses, but at the same time, I do not support Kerry." Bruce Davis '07.5 who worked 90-hour weeks as a New Hampshire volunteer for Dean, echoed Sax's sentiments. "Kerry was always the first one to piggy-back Dean's ideas and change his platform to say what Dean was saying. I don't see any more leadership qualities in him than in [President George W.] Bush," he said.

Other Middlebury "Deaniacs" have proudly joined the Kerry campaign. Joseph Rhoades '07.5, a Dean supporter, believes that Kerry currently provides the Democratic Party with its best chance of recapturing the White House. "I like Kerry because he is liberal-minded and represents classic Democratic ideals," said Rhoades, who plans to join Students for Kerry. "However, at this point, I would throw my support behind whomever wins the nomination."

Many Kerry followers insist that their candidate's progressive platform is often overlooked, particularly by Deaniacs. "The fact is, Kerry has the best, most consistent record on progressive issues," said Christopher Shields '04, who worked on the Kerry campaign last summer and during J-Term. "Kerry passed the nondiscrimination act against homosexuals 20 years ago!"

While many Dean supporters endorse Kerry as the frontrunner, a substantial number of Deaniacs are drawn to Edwards' campaign. Championing himself as the product of the working class, a mill worker's son and emphasizing his populist platform, Edwards claims to possess Dean-esque "new ideas and a new vision." Calvin Garner '06, who served as a Dean volunteer in New Hampshire, understands Deaniacs' reasoning behind backing Edwards.

"Dean supporters see [Edwards] as a little less established. Kerry is more of a Washington insider, and Dean's whole concept was to put non-Washington insiders in office," he said. "In a sense, Edwards also seems more electable. He is a southerner, and as we have seen in recent years, they are the only Democrats to win the White House."

Dean's core base seems to be responding positively to Edwards. Dean's former deputy director told the Associated Press that followers of Dean created a website, www.deanforedwards.com to garner support for Edwards' campaign and to help "put him over the top in March 2 primary votes and beyond."

Kucinich, who has struggled for resources and votes thus far, is also expected to benefit from Dean's departure from the presidential race, albeit on a smaller scale. Kucinich is poised to perform especially well in Vermont, where many liberal Dean supporters find that Kucinich's far-left stance aligns well with Dean's liberalism. "Kucinich runs a similar campaign to Dean," said Barry Davis '07.5. "Their supporters are generally progressive, younger and more open-minded."

For the remainder of Middlebury Deaniacs, there exist other options, including remaining undecided, or completely redirecting their political energy by volunteering for local campaigns. Davis expects Dean supporters to become involved in the election of Vermont gubernatorial candidate Peter Clavelle, a Progressive Party member turned Democrat currently serving as Mayor of Burlington. Nevertheless, the majority of the College's Deaniacs have decided to remain focused on the presidential election, even if it means waiting out the election process before endorsing a candidate.

Garner explained, "Dean's core supporters understood how he was changing the political process by involving people who had left the process in America. Within the party, Dean and the other major candidates are on opposite ends of the spectrum, and are completely different types of politicians. I certainly have not decided to endorse anyone at this point, and for these reasons, I cannot see many Dean supporters being genuinely attracted to another candidate."

While Howard Dean supporters will continue to spread his message, even Dean campaign outsiders recognize the impact of his campaign. Dean's transformation of the internet into a means of social networking brought his campaign to great heights, and has begun to influence the course of state-by-state House of Representatives and Senate elections through the Change for America campaign.

This effort has already begun to tilt the scales in the Democrats' favor, particularly in the case of Ben Chandler, a Kentucky candidate for the House who recently became the first Democrat to recapture a formerly Republican seat in through a special election in four years. Chandler was aided by Internet techniques such as liberal Web logs or "blogs" — cyberspaces where supporters could discuss ideas and strategies — which pushed his campaign and even drew significant support from distant states such as Massachusetts.

In the presidential race, Dean for America's solicitation of small contributions from online visitors helped his campaign raise $41 million last year, revolutionizing how political fundraising is done. The group's promotion of the "blog" allowed for frequent contact between voters, aroused interest in the campaign and minimized the factor of geography in an election by unifying constituents from around the country. "Dean ran a great campaign and he should certainly be commended," said Shields.

# Starr, Proctor primed for facelifts

By Myra Palmero
*Staff Writer*

Frantic rumors about whether the new library will render Starr Library obsolete and whether Proctor will close or not have recently been circulating at Middlebury College. Renovations are likely within the next four years, possible options for the two buildings' futures are still being discussed.

When the nearly 900,000 items are moved to the new library in September, Starr Library, which was expanded in 1962, will be left to house other departments and facilities. Project Manager for Facilities Planning David Gleason said that though final decisions are far from being made, they are currently exploring the possibility of converting Starr Library into the Axinn Center for the Humanities. The Axinn Center would house the English, American Literature and Civilization and Film and Media Culture departments. The concept was presented to the Board of Trustees in a meeting this month, who recommended soliciting proposals from architects to study the building and to see what sort of possibiliies existed for the future of the building.

Due to Starr Library's historic and grand elements — such as the intricate designs on the ceilings — the building will not be completely torn down to create the still-debated Axinn Center. Gleason said, "It's a challenge architecturally, because there are so many different levels in Starr and complexities such as ceiling height, but that's why we are having architects look at these things." Gleason hopes that they will be able to go to the Trustees in May with information from the surveying architects, however they are still months from any definite decisions about it.

To address questions that weigh heavily on the minds of Proctor diners, planners are still coming up with options for the dining hall's future. Proctor, which currently seats 450 students, may officially become home to two separate dining halls — one for Wonnacott and another for Brainerd Commons.

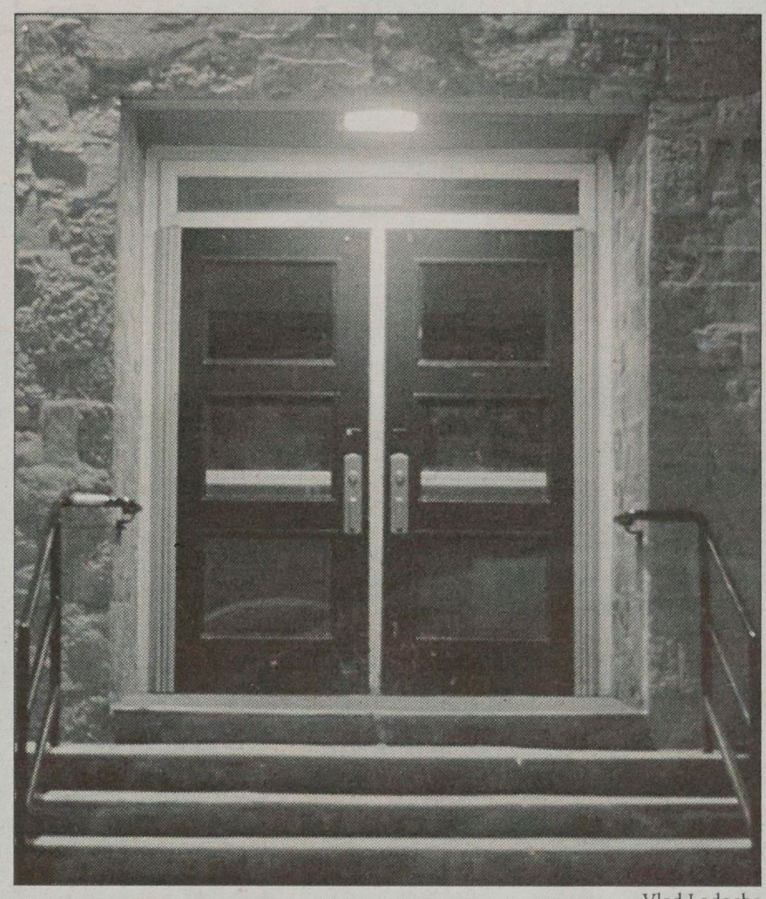
Gleason said that Facilities Planning's hope is that the new dining halls will be "of the same quality as Ross already is and that Atwater will be. They will be equally spectacular in a completely different design. Proctor is an old building, but its type of dining experience is not where we want to go. We want the open-display cooking — not the cafeteria style, similar to Ross and similar to what Atwater will be," he said.

The decentralized dining system is considered by the administration to be crucial to the success of the commons system at Middlebury. As the Enhanced Residential Plan on the commons system website states, "Dining is an experience that brings people together. They should be the cultural hubs where students, faculty and staff can eat as part of a community that is a distinct component of the larger Middlebury College community."

Allowing students the freedom to eat wherever they want, regardless of what commons they are from, could allay the anxiety of feeling disconnected from other parts of the campus.

Though some students may feel anxiety about the comfortable, old Proctor that they have come to know and love being changed, renovating the building will create more open spaces in which, as the commons plan hopes, will make the dining hall a place not only for dining but spaces for light entertainment and to be "focal points of commons life" as well.

Other students have expressed concern that the renovations will bring disturbing noise close to College dorms. Executive Vice President of Facilities Planning David Ginevan responded, "There's no such thing as quiet construction — there's always that inconvenience. But other people have put up with it, otherwise you wouldn't have the campus you have to enjoy right now. Everyone gets his or her fair share," he said. Meanwhile, Ginevan expressed hope that those projects may be completed in time for use by some current students.



Vlad Lodoaba

**Proctor's closed doors could foreshadow the building's fate for next year.**

Vlad Lodoaba

**Geoff Maly '04 (right) checks out materials on reserve at Starr Library. Future plans for the building include a new center for the humanities.**

# Flyers ignite winter term discourse

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about J-Term with the faculty before the issue is called to question at the March faculty meeting. According to the flyers they have distributed, "97 percent of students are in favor of preserving J-Term. Let's make everyone know it!"

Stephen Clarke '04, director of academic affairs for the SGA, commented on the importance of a vocal student body. "Our first initiative has been to get kids active. We want to raise awareness and help people find out what the issues are in the debate. When kids see that J-Term is really on the chopping block, they will take action," he explained. Clarke chairs the Student Educational Affairs Committee (SEAC), the group behind the SGA's current campaign.

In addition to the battle cries of the ubiquitous blue flyers, the SGA has worked other channels of communication, including the opinions section of *The Middlebury Campus* and publicity through the SGA.

Students have already begun to respond by raising discussions in several classes, according to Scott Buckley '06.5, a member of the SEAC. "I've seen students' reactions. I heard from students that they have been speaking about J-Term in their classes as a direct result of the flyer campaign," he said.

First-year Dan Feinberg indicated his interest in speaking up for J-Term. "I'm going to talk to my advisor . . . I agree [with the flyers] that it would eliminate one of Middlebury's most valuable traditions," he said.

Another concerned student, Chris Solberg '07, agreed. "Nobody I've ever talked to wants to get rid of J-Term," he added. Solberg also mentioned he had heard about the proposals through an e-mail sent out by the student senate.

Clarke advises students to look ahead to the March faculty meeting as the first pitched battle of the J-Term debate. In this meeting the faculty will discuss the two recently announced proposals and give their recommendation to the Board of Trustees, who make the ultimate decisions on academic calendar issues. The first proposal calls for a reformed version of J-Term that would allow both students and faculty more flexibility in choosing the way they spend January, while the second would establish a traditional two-semester system.

"The faculty has already voted to suspend the rules for normal procedure [in the March meeting]. They will be considering the two proposals side by side," said Clarke.

Accordingly, the faculty will first vote on which of the two proposals they prefer rather than considering the two separately, as in normal parliamentary procedure. They will then vote on whether they would like to keep J-Term as it stands or instate the proposal chosen in the first vote. "The first vote will really determine J-Term's fate," Clarke claimed.

The SGA anticipates a charged and most likely drawn-out discussion among faculty. According to Clarke, "Things may not happen until April, it really depends on faculty opinion . . . If the faculty votes down J-Term, then it will be time to really start to agitate. That's when students really need to make their voices heard to the Trustees. The goal is to never have to get there, though," he said.

In order to meet that goal, the SGA feels students will have to make their voices heard in a big way. "There's absolutely no correlation between the professors you think would be in favor of J-Term and those who actually are," said Clarke.

Despite all the noise, the faculty has remained relatively quiet on the issue thus far, aside from a vocal few whom have been visible allies from the start. The issue has been on the faculty agenda since the initial meeting at Bread Loaf this fall.

Many students feel the SGA's current publicity push may be too little too late, claiming the organization should have taken action months ago after Bread Loaf. Clarke addressed this sentiment, claiming, "The reason why we haven't [yet acted] is that we've been participating in the debate on an official way, closed door haggling in committee. Now we can actually discuss the proposals publicly. Everything was confidential before [the two proposals were officially released]. The faculty has set the pace for discussion, so the SGA has been in a very reactive position."

# OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY SUZANNE R. MOZES

Unfortunately, there is a remarkable similarity in the Italian language between the words for fig and female genitalia, and when my grammar professor asked me what I like to snack on when I'm hungry, I told her — or thought I told her — that I just LOVED figs. And a smile did not even curl on her lips as it did with my American classmates. She helped me through my pronunciation until I mastered the word for fig, albeit with a muddled accent.

Among my other goals while living in Italy, I hoped to be absorbed completely into Italian culture. Until my austere American tongue tries to fall in with the supple Italian rhythm of discourse, my dark eyes, thick hair and olive skin allow me to shop for dinner in the open-air markets as a native of Northeastern Italy. I wanted to cast off any images associated with my American identity, particularly the stereotypes that Europeans embrace and impose on those of other nationalities. I bought the pointy-toed boots, I bought the black clothing and I bought the scarves.

Yet appearances are just that — appearances. My words give me away, and the language barrier has been an undeniable point of contention for me during this assimilation. While Americans are more apt to tease and imitate foreign accents, the Ferrarese want to help you adjust to their lifestyle, and I have been so thankful for this kindness. However, a marked difference presents itself — we avoid critiquing other cultures while I find that these people, despite their overwhelming awe for New York City, feel no shame in deliberately criticizing my country. Clearly, if I have a hard time expressing what I like to eat, I find it extremely difficult to defend my nation using my American vocabulary. Yet I have found a new sense of nationalism that I never could have anticipated.

While living with an Italian woman in a building which — as she reminds me daily — is older than the United States Constitution, I cannot get through a dinner conversation without discussing the faults of our educational system, environmental policies, police force or presidential candidates. I cannot go running in the morning without getting into a heated debate about Bush or go dancing at night without being asked why there is so much violence on our streets. With the bombardment of these fault-finding discussions, my thought process seems to have reversed. While I was hypercritical of these issues before my departure, I now proudly defend them, wearing my sneakers, jeans and blue MIDD sweatshirt, still speaking their language and respecting their culture, but trying to make them respect mine. The assimilation is still important, I've developed this sense of American nationalism, and it required going to another country to do so.

# Where Shakespeare meets Twain

## Faculty considers single 'English & American Literature' department, major

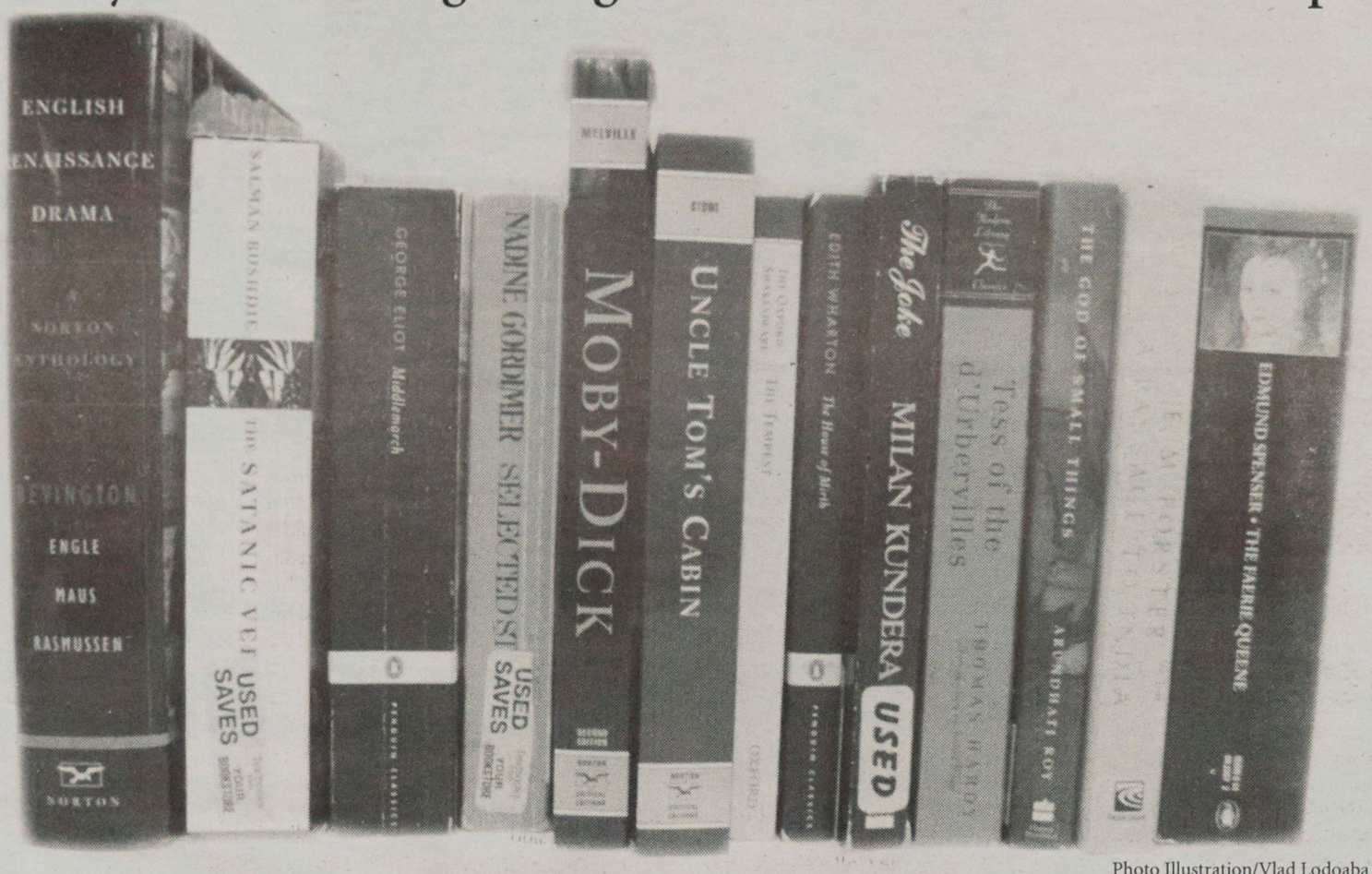


Photo Illustration/Vlad Lodoaba

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erature in English," Elder explained, but ultimately decided to take the discussion one step further.

The merger would come hand-in-hand with the establishment of an American Studies Department and major, a redesign of the current American Civilization branch of the American Literature and Civilization Department. The department, according to Associate Professor of American Literature and Civilization Michael Newbury, would maintain literature as "one form of cultural expression" but would also "be able to offer courses in several areas somewhat underrepresented in Middlebury's curriculum."

These fields, central to American studies programs at universities across the United States, include African-American studies, ethnic studies, American popular culture studies and the study of American culture in a global perspective, among others.

"The demands of our two majors housed within the one department have too often stretched our teaching resources too thin to allow the kinds of growth we hope for," Newbury explained.

Middlebury is the only college in the country to maintain separate English and American literature departments, a tradition that, according to Elder, no longer makes sense.

"From the English side, by the 20th century, there is an artificial distinction between American and English literature." Merging the two departments and majors, he continued, would allow students to explore the lines of influence that exist between English and American authors' work.

Jared Ishkanian '04, a member of the English Student Advisory Council (SAC), is "enthusiastic" about the potential merger. "Why should an English major learn Chaucer, Shakespeare and Milton, and then not have the opportunity to continue on to Twain, Hemingway and Fitzgerald? From a liberal arts standpoint, it makes no sense," he said.

SAC member Max Lavine '04.5, an English major, has never taken classes in the American Literature department but said he has studied American writers, like Robert Frost, in his English courses. "Dealing with American authors when dealing with literature in the English language is inescapable," he said.

American Literature professors have long resisted assimilation into the English Department. This is the first time, said Millier, that the department subdivision "has proposed itself for absorption."

But some English and American literature professors have reservations about the proposed merger. Some worry about the English Department growing into a "super-department" while others have voiced concern about the effect of the merger on employment.

Abernethy Professor of American Literature John McWilliams, a 25-year veteran of the American Literature program, said he believed the change would "prove to be a major loss to the curriculum." Currently, a series of chronological survey courses composes the backbone of the American Literature major. That "historical sweep would not be possible" should the English and American Literature majors fuse, Millier pointed out.

"What will be abandoned will be the comprehensive study of American Literature from its beginnings to the present," McWilliams said. "The great loss will prove therefore to be ultimately to the students."

Millier said some consider this historical coherence a "false" one. "It's a 1940s and 1950s concept of American Literature that is now outdated," she explained.

The growing influence of postcolonial and African-American writings on the "literature in English" field has also informed the preliminary departmental discussions. "National divisions don't hold up in the same way as they used to," said Elder. "Literature now has to be read in a global context." He also noted that the English department has placed a greater emphasis on postcolonial literature in recent years, hiring its first full-time faculty member in the field in 2001.

There is even talk of calling the proposed department and major "English and American Literatures" to recognize "the diversity of literature in English," Elder explained.

Once appointments to the joint committee have been made, the group will assemble to craft a new curriculum and design a new structure for the new literature major. The proposal will then be sent back to the English and American Literature and Civilizations Departments for a vote. If each department approves the document by a two-thirds majority, it will fall into the hands of the Educational Affairs Committee (EAC), which will then issue a recommendation to the faculty for a definitive vote.

Even if both departments green light the proposal this semester, Millier is doubtful the EAC will hear it before next fall. The merger, if approved by the faculty, could take effect as early as fall 2005, but it is more likely to replace the current model when the new Axinn Center for the Humanities opens its doors in a renovated Starr Library building, Millier said.

"We don't want to rush it," Elder affirmed. "We want people to have adequate time to consider it."

Although a blueprint of the new department won't come into focus until the joint committee has begun to hash out the details, the new major will be "very flexible," according to Millier. The changes also will not affect current majors.

# Room draw proposal keeps students in commons

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behind their classmates.

Students will also receive points based on continuing commons. They will receive one additional point for every semester completed in the commons of the room for which they are bidding.

To further recognize seniority, every senior will receive two bonus points to ensure that a group of seniors will always win a block over a group of juniors. Upon approval of their dean, junior counselors (JCs) will also receive one bonus point.

Groups of friends will total their seniority points, commons points and bonus points, and then fill out an application for the blocks they want. Groups can apply for blocks in up to two commons. If there is a tie between groups, individual students' random numbers will be used to break the tie.

The system may seem tricky, but the Committee feels that it will give students greater flexibility and more options in choosing housing, especially for seniors. "The group has to strategize where their best shot is," said Edleson. "It really is a matter of priority, living with your friends or living in exactly the room you want to live in."

In addition to the actual structure of block draw, certain senior blocks will be redistributed in order to compensate for the increased number of beds in Atwater. Houses currently belonging to Atwater will go most likely to Brainerd or Wonnacott, who fall behind Cook, Atwater and Ross in terms of quality senior housing.

Also affecting the redistribution of houses is the possible acquisition of Palmer House as a senior dorm, pending decision by the Community Council. The Committee expects the commons affiliations of these redistributed blocks to be finalized on the room draw website, which will go online March 1.

The second major goal of the Committee was to allow as many students as possible to have the option of continuing in their commons. This has become increasingly difficult as the unequal distribution of seniors among commons has prevented rising sophomores from drawing rooms in their particular commons.

To remedy this concern, the order of commons draw and open draw will be altered. In the past, junior commons draw and junior open draw occurred before any sophomores drew. This year, junior commons draw will be followed immediately by sophomore commons draw. Once commons draw for both juniors and sophomores is complete, open draw for juniors, then sophomores, will take place.

The rationale behind this change is multi-faceted. "In addition to allowing more sophomores to continue in their commons, there is simply not a huge need for junior room draw. When you take away the percentages that are going abroad, and the numbers that are JCs, or going to social houses or academic interest houses," said Edleson, "junior draw is not very big."

"Having junior open draw later will also allow more juniors to opt for summer draw, which makes sense because most of the rooms in summer draw are junior quality rooms anyway," according to Nicholas Campofranco '06.5, the Committee's Wonnacott liaison.

**We wanted to make room draw less of an ambiguous system.**

**— Nick Campofranco**

Edleson acknowledged that because of the current inequity of housing among the commons, students might have concerns with the new system. However, he believes that the proposal laid out by his committee is the fairest possible system for everyone.

"We recognize that there is inequality in the housing. The question becomes, what's the best way to distribute the inequality? Is it totally just by random number? Or is it some combination of factors?" he said. By prioritizing housing based on both seniority and commons loyalty, the Committee believes the new plan distributes this inequality in a fair way.

Campofranco hopes the new room draw system will be understandable and straightforward to all Middlebury students. "We wanted to make [room draw] less of an ambiguous system," he said. "People were always confused by the commons number, the random number. There was always this confusion around it."

In addition to the website, the Committee hopes to further dispel confusion regarding room draw in a campus-wide information session, to be announced at a later date.

Vlad Lodoaba

**A programmer's typographical error deprived students of telephone and voicemail services last weekend.**

# Telephone service interrupted

By Ben Salkowe
*Staff Writer*

Students were temporarily without telephone and voicemail services Saturday morning. The problem resulted from a programmer's typo, in which the word "status" was entered instead of "primary." During the morning update the system looped in confusion and began affecting all student extensions.

In one of two weekend e-mails to the student body, the Telephone Services staff described the situation as a "programming error." The outage reset student extensions and voicemails, erasing all stored information, including saved messages and distribution lists.

The problem began Saturday morning at 6:32 a.m., just after Bitek Inc. — the company responsible for administering telephone systems across campus — began making daily updates from the Banner system. According to Dean of Library and Information Services Barbara Doyle-Wilch, the updates are necessary "particularly at the beginning of a term when students are moving rooms a lot." Each morning Bitek notes changes in student housing on the Banner system and makes the appropriate switches in telephone extensions.

Just after the system began its updates, Public Safety began receiving student complaints of not having a dial tone on their campus phones. Public Safety then made several calls to Bitek before a representative addressed the problem.

The Banner system itself was exempt from blame in the telephone troubles this time, according to Doyle-Wilch. "Banner is a shared database" from which information is taken, she said.

By the time the College's telecommunications specialists arrived on campus, the 2,409 student extensions had been deleted and voicemail services were gone.

Using backups from Friday night, the specialists were able to contact Bitek — based in Anaheim, Calif. — and recreate the student extensions and voicemail Saturday afternoon. Although their saved information had been deleted, the service was restored. After being reset on Tuesday, the system is now expected to be stable.

Students, for the most part, were annoyed but patient with the weekend's telephone troubles. Some students, particularly seniors with important saved messages related to job interviews, were angered by the outage.

Many, however, did not even notice the problem until they picked up their phones and realized they had to reset their security codes and voicemail settings.

"I wasn't even aware there was a problem," said Maren Schultz '07, who only realized when she received the notice from Telephone Services. Her roommate, Myra Palmero '07, was just resetting her voicemail. Although frustrated that she would have to reprogram a distribution list she had made for a theater cast, Palmero noted that "[the situation] is annoying, but if it happens it happens. What can you do?"

Because faculty and staff do not move or switch rooms as frequently as students, their extensions and voicemail are not updated daily and were therefore not affected.

Doyle-Wilch, although pleased with her staff's quick response and solution, recognized the inconvenience and apologized for the problem. "It is always scary not to have phone service," she said. "On behalf of Library and Information Services, we are terribly sorry."

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## CORRECTIONS

*The Middlebury Campus* would like to announce the following corrections from the article "College to open new overseas schools," in the Feb. 12, 2004, issue. Only one "School Abroad" is in fact being added, in Hangzhou, China, making a total of seven. The last attempt to launch a School in China occurred in the mid-1990s and was abandoned due not to a lack of interest but for budgetary reasons and insufficient enrollments. The other additions, Guadalajara, Mexico, and Belo Horizonte and Niteroi, Brazil, are merely three additional site options within the School in Latin America, supplementing the existing sites in Argentina and Uruguay.

In last week's coverage of the Middlebury ski team at the Dartmouth Carnival, results from the men's and women's Giant Slalom, Slalom and women's 5k and 15k races were incorrectly reported. Please see our Web site, www.middleburycampus.com, for corrected results. *The Middlebury Campus* regrets these errors.

# public safety log

FEBRUARY 16 TO FEBRUARY 23, 2004

| DATE | TIME | INCIDENT | CATEGORY | LOCATION | DISPOSITION |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2/16/04 | 6:30 p.m.. | Theft | Jacket, cell phone, wallet | LaForce | Open |
| 2/20/04 | 2:38 a.m. | Vandalism | Door window | Gifford | Referred to commons dean |
| 2/22/04 | 12:27 p.m. | Collision | Hit & run/vehicle/pedestrian | Stewart Hill | Open |
| 2/22/04 | 2:40 a.m. | Vandalism | Structure/wall of McCullough | McCullough | Referred to commons dean |
| 2/21 and 2/22/04 | 9 p.m. and 1 a.m. | Noise complaint | Town ordinance/party violation | Fletcher | Referred to commons dean |
| 2/21/04 | 7:00 p.m. | Theft | Wallet | Ross | Property recovered |
| 2/23/04 | 2:15 a.m. | Vandalism | Wall | Ross | Referred to commons dean |

# COLLEGE SHORTS

BY CAROLINE STAUFFER AND THOMAS DRESCHER

## Harvard nixes sex magazine

Two days after approving a proposed student publication that would have included nude photographs of undergraduates, Harvard University announced that it will not, in fact, fund the magazine. This new decision came after a wave of controversy swept through the university in response to the Committee on College Life's initial approval of the proposal.

The magazine, tentatively called *H Bomb*, would have included sex-related articles, fiction, art, columns and photography, and would have served as "a popular forum for discussion about sex that is not otherwise available," according to a written statement prepared by the two female students who authored the proposal.

The original decision of approval was based on the assumption that the magazine would not be "pornographic" in nature. Soon after this initial ruling, national media picked up the story, and a combination of factors forced the committee to reconsider.

Publication of such a magazine is not without precedent.

Vassar College's *Squirm* has been around for five years and was reviewed by Committee on College Life members at Harvard.

Source: *Brown Daily Herald*

## Study connects rape to binge drinking

A new study sponsored by the Harvard School of Public Health shows a correlation between the amount of binge drinkers on college campuses nation-wide and the amount of sexual assaults on those campuses.

This hypothesis was proven by a study that collected data from 119 schools participating in three Harvard School of Health Alcohol Surveys from 1997 to 2001.

Of nearly 24,000 women surveyed, one in 20 reported being raped — three-quarters of whom were intoxicated at the time.

Forty-four percent of students in the study were classified as binge drinkers.

The study showed that colleges with a higher rate of binge drinkers also had more rapes. Female underage binge drinkers were 1.3 times more likely to be raped, and those who used illicit drugs were 3.2 times more likely. Sorority members were also twice as likely to be raped as non-members and those who were classified as being binge drinkers in high school were 2.5 percent more likely to be assaulted.

Source: *The University Daily Kansan*

## Trinity selects new college president

Paul E. Raether, chairman of Trinity College's Board of Trustees and presidential search committee, named James F. Jones, Jr., president of Kalamazoo College, as the 20th president of Trinity earlier this month. Jones will assume the office effective July 1.

Jones was a professor in the humanities at Kalamazoo and he initiated the development of a substantial capital campaign to endow 10 faculty chairs, student scholarship, faculty development funds and the renovation of four buildings.

Before his career at Kalamazoo, Jones held a variety of academic positions at Southern Methodist University, Columbia University and Washington University of St. Louis.

The search process was conducted by Academic Search of Washington, D.C., and the Committee consisted of two students, one staff member, five faculty members and seven Trustees.

Source: Trinity College Web site

localnews

8
**FREE BUS SERVICE**
COMMUNITY BUS RUNS RIGHT THROUGH COLLEGE

9
**BLUE HEN STORE**
BABA'S IS GONE BUT THE BLUE HEN IS HERE TO STAY

9
**BIKING FOR GOD**
LOCAL RESIDENTS SPREAD THE GOSPEL FROM THEIR HOGS

10
**REVIVING ROMANCE**
HEAD NORTH TO BRISTOL AND CHECK OUT THE ROCK

Albert Bitici

ACTR driver Garth Corse transports 50 passengers each day on a bus route running through the College and stopping throughout Middlebury.

# Catching a free ride on the ACTR bus

## Community bus service saves time, saves cash

By Joshua Carson
*Local News Editor*

It's Friday night and you need a car to get, uh, ok, beer. You know that the those thirties of Busch Light go quicker than freshman Febs at a McCullough so you better get to the Bev Center fast. "Ok," you think to yourself, "Who has a car that is actually willing to lend it me? So, I might be from New Jersey and have a relatively poor driving record, but we'll just leave that part out." But alas, by 8 o'clock you've exhausted your potential list of rides, leaving you sober and alone in your room watching rerun Family Guy episodes off the network. If only you had known about the Addison County Transit Resource (ACTR). Everyone has seen it — that nondescript, white and yellow, handicap accessible, 24-passenger community bus that drives through campus. With stops in front of McCullough, Old Chapel, Adirondack Circle and the Center for the Arts, the ACTR buses are great options for students who need to make a quick trip into town but lack the willpower to walk past Twilight. I decided to jump on the bus one afternoon and sample the service — and for about 45 minutes, I meandered along the streets of Middlebury as the sole passenger of driver Garth Corse.

Corse, a lifetime resident of Vermont — and, by the way, an acquaintance of Howard Dean back when the candidate was running his medical practice out of an old creamery in Shelburne — is a fulltime driver for the service. He, along with about 30 other drivers — some paid, others volunteer — provide a free bus service from 7 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. every day except Sunday. ACTR is a state and federally funded form of public transportation that can take students from the College not only downtown, but also to the town centers of Bristol and Vergennes. Moreover, the shuttle can deviate from its scheduled route to pick up or drop off passengers as well as stop directly on the regular route if hailed by a pedestrian.

Corse has been working for ACTR for almost a year and estimates that he transports anywhere from 50 to 60 people each day along the one-and-a-half-hour route, driving from Rosie's on Rt. 7 South to Middlebury Union High School to Shaws to the College and everywhere in between. There are 31 distinct stops, all of which are designated by a yellow ACTR sign and a route map that displays the daily time table. Corse transports all different types of people — adults going to work, children returning from school and College students heading into town. He said that when schools let out at 2:30 p.m., he starts to get busy. Also, during special events like Parents' Weekend and home hockey games, the ACTR bus is packed to capacity.

The buses handle well in the snow and ice, Corse promised, but the anti-lock breaks often make it difficult to stop, something he can empathize with since he was rear-ended last year while waiting in the parking lot of Shaw's. "I don't get how they couldn't see the big white bus," he said. But he reassured me that his driving skills are impeccable — in order to drive the bus, you must have a perfect driving record. In addition, all drivers are tested at random for drugs and alcohol.

ACTR operates four buses and four vans, providing 75,000 rides each year to members of the Middlebury and surrounding communities. "Many of ACTR's services focus specifically on disadvantaged populations such as elders, persons with disabilities and low-income families and individuals," according to a website devoted to public transportation in New England. ACTR, for example, transports Medicare patients to Burlington hospitals as well as providing the Meals-On-Wheels service to elderly people who are unable to prepare their own food. While most of the funding comes from government grants, the service also relies on donations from community members and businesses that take advantage of the service. So, next time you see the big white ACTR bus driving through the College, don't hesitate to wave down Garth for a quick ride into town.

Addison County Transit Resource (ACTR) provides a free bus service to the entire county and its route runs right through Middlebury College. Below is a list of locations at which the shuttle stops. A connection to the Tri-Town Shuttle can be picked up from Merchant's Row.

**THE ACTR BUS CAN BE PICKED UP AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS AROUND TOWN:**

Merchant's Row
Marble Works
Middlebury Union High School
Rosie's Restaurant
Shaws
Middlebury Inn
Porter Hospital
McCullough Student Center
Center for the Arts
Old Chapel
Hillcrest
Courtyard by Marriott
Main Street
Middlebury Recreation Park

# The Blue Hen nests in Middlebury

Vlad Lodoaba

**A rooster between them, Jessie and Leah Raymond recline in The Blue Hen Kitchen and Market, which recently opened for business.**

By Lynn Gray
*Staff Writer*

The Middlebury community is embracing the arrival of a new business in town with the opening of The Blue Hen Kitchen and Market in the building that previously housed Baba's, a local general store and deli.

Peter Ross '83, the resident manager of The Blue Hen, has maintained the feel of Baba's, but plans to upgrade some of the stock to offer more local and upscale gourmet products. At the same time, he aims to please college students as well as townspeople, so he plans to hang on to "things that students can pickup for their microwaves."

Ross began his Middlebury College career in 1974. Cooking had not always been in his plans — in fact, he had no idea what he wanted to do when he started college. In the summer between his first two years at Middlebury he traveled west, where he worked in the restaurant of a European hotel. He fell in love with cooking and took a fall semester off to continue his work in the kitchen. He dropped out of Middlebury after two years and headed to The Culinary Institute of America, from which he earned a two-year degree. He thought he was gone from Middlebury for good.

While cooking French fries one summer, however, he realized that he should return to Middlebury for his college degree. Upon returning, he became captain of the Middlebury ski patrol and worked as a counselor in Stewart his senior year. He recalls his time in Stewart as "the best job I've had in my life." He began the Stewart Olympics, complete with indoor skiing and grape-eating contests, in order to foster comraderie among student residents and better acquaint everyone from the various floors. The Ross family has a long history of involvement at Middlebury College as Ross' daughter, Abby, is now a senior and will be the 22nd Ross family member to graduate from the College.

Given his ties to the area — he also grew up in Cornwall — Ross was excited when investor and now business partner Ron Calise told him he needed someone "who knows food" to help run The Blue Hen.

Since purchasing the space, Ross and his wife, Beth, have been busy working at The Blue Hen. The layout of the store has remained the same, but they have been pushing towards their goal of bringing in high quality food and drinks. Ross wants to reach out to the local community. "We want to support the people who support us," he said.

The store stocks exclusively Weybridge's Monument Farms milk and has Bristol Bakery bread delivered fresh five days a week. He also plans to buy fresh produce from local farmers' markets when they are in season. The market is well stocked with everything from canned foods to fine wines to hair products to homemade cookies. The kitchen serves gourmet pizzas with eclectic toppings such as shrimp scampi, smoked salmon and artichokes. There is also a wide variety of deli sandwiches and salads.

# CMA merges motorcycles and minstrels

By Lisie Mehlman
*Local News Editor*

Seth Cohen (you know, from "The O.C.") is my dream boy. But, if witty banter doesn't quite do it for you, maybe motorcyclists will. I bet you thought they were a rare sight in these parts? Think again — our teeny state of Vermont has not one, not two, but three Christian Motorcycle Association (CMA) chapters within its borders.

For CMA members, riding motorcycles is not only about cut-off tees, black leather jackets and navy bandanas, or overtaking old ladies on the highway. While CMA cyclists enjoy these thrills, their greatest thrill comes from spreading the Gospel and the beliefs of Jesus Christ to other bikers.

With over 90,000 members united nationally in 700 local chapters, the CMA minstrels are well represented at almost every major motorcycling event, from the biggies held at Daytona to more minor rallies. Wendy McDaniel, editor of *Heartbeat*, CMA's monthly magazine, explains that CMA members "go to secular cycling events where we work and serve. That is how we have gained a reputation. We are allowed into these places because of our work. We are allowed to witness to these people. We are a Christian club, so we try to tell people about Jesus. We try to get them to see the need to have him as their savior."

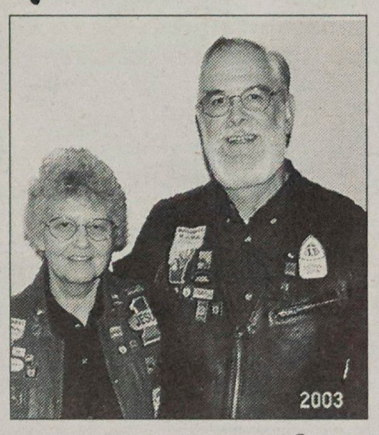
While placed on hold during my call to the CMA, the phone did not play recorded elevator music, but gospel preaching instead. An advertisement to visit the "shop CMAUSA" website to order CMA biker gear followed.

But why spread Christ's message at motorcycling competitions? Explained McDaniel, "Back in 1975, Herbie Shreeve took up motorcycling to get closer to his teenaged son. He was a pastor and saw the need for religion in the people he encountered at motor rallies. So, he founded the non-profit CMA."

At motorcycle races volunteers work the ticket lines and clean up garbage while passing out pamphlets and Bibles. They try to share their beliefs. "Usually people respect us enough to listen to what we have to say even if they don't accept it. The tapes teach us just to back off," McDaniel said.

The tapes McDaniel mentioned are instrumental in teaching new CMA members how to be effective witnesses. Some tapes are very specific and provide tips on the best way to reach children or women or prisoners with the Gospel. Along with attending competitions, CMA members volunteer at prisons to share their beliefs with those who are incarcerated.

Steve Eaton has been the president of the Rutland chapter for two years and has overseen many of the activities in which local residents participate. "Our last event was the Classic Motorcycle Tour Rally at Killington and that was the first of October. It was very successful. In April we will have a booth at the Southeast Freedom Fighter Swap Meet at the Rutland Fair Grounds. May 1 we will have our big 'Run for the Son.' That is our annual fundraising tour. We bike 100 miles and we get sponsors."




Courtesy

**Steve Eaton, president of Rutland's CMA chapter, bikes with his wife Barbara.**

Of all the money raised nationally through these kinds of fundraising events, "60 percent is donated to three charitable organizations devoted to international missionary work and spreading the word of God to lost people," McDaniel explains.

Thus, individual checks in the amount of $488,124 were sent to the Jesus Film Project, Missionary Ventures and Open Doors. The remaining 40 percent of funds is spent on purchasing Bibles and informational pamphlets used by witnesses domestically.

For those interested in the CMA, meetings are held in Rutland and Ferrisberg once a month. The CMA also maintains a website, www.cmausa.org.

## Motorcycle Boys Do Cry

According to the CMA New England website (cmanewengland.org), Progressive Insurance performed an experiment intended to compare the ability for different types of men to "feel and display passion." Over 1,100 men were surveyed nationwide. Some interesting patterns emerged when experimenters compared the tendencies of motorcyclists to the tendencies of non-motorcyclists.

**Motorcyclists:**

- are moved to tears by poetry almost twice as frequently as men who don't ride
- are five times as likely to cry during a romantic movie than men who don't ride
- give their "significant other" flowers 2.5 times more often then men that don't ride.

**Favorite TV Shows of Cyclists:**

1. Melrose Place
2. Ally McBeal
3. NYPD Blue
4. ER

**Favorite TV Shows of Non-Cylists:**

1. 60 Minutes
2. Friends
3. Everybody Loves Raymond
4. Monday Night Football

## Rural Realities

By Crystal Belle

He stood there, J. Crew jacket, plastic Proctor cup in hand, with a wry smile on his face. He said, "Slam poetry should only be performed." The innate artistry in me curled up into a ball, as I raged within. I calmly replied, "Actually that is a misconception. Slam poetry is as much a written form as it is oral."

He saw the rigidity in my demeanor and decided to leave it at that. I was glad, for there isn't an ounce of patience left in me to explain the Slam phenomenon, here in rurality. When he finally walked away, I exhaled.

Speaking from the perspective of a performance poet, I cannot begin to explain how many times I have been asked the question, "Are you more of a writer or a performer?" And I always reply, "Both." Why do so many believe that the combination is not possible? Could it be because here at Middlebury, and other prestigious liberal arts institutions, we are taught to treasure the creativity of dead white men? That might possibly be the case.

It is imperative that academics at least try to add variety to their courses, especially literature. Yes, learning the works of the literary canon helps with understanding the art of prose and poetry, sonnets and villanelles, etc. However, just as people created iambic pentameter and the haiku, people of today are creating new forms, which need to be studied and understood. How else will we be able to make the world more diverse in thought?

I remember an English class my freshman year. I was assigned a close analysis of any poem. Naturally, I chose to explicate a poem of the slam style. The entire class, including the professor, was confused and reluctant to indulge in the form. Instead, many referred to their Norton Anthology of Poetry, citing works similar to the likes of Robert Frost and W.B. Yeats, while insisting that the poem I had read lacked true creativity. There I stood, in front of the class, and stated, "This is in fact an art form, and very much representative of an innovative style, just not the ones you are used to." I was shocked, appalled. I insisted on defending the poet, Jessica Care Moore, who is in the Slam Poetry Hall of Fame. From that day forward, I realized that the world is divided socially, economically and, unfortunately, academically.

So last week, when a fellow student of mine made a comment similar to what I heard three years before, I realized that many people hold on to what they know, failing to let anything else inside. What is the point of education if you leave unchanged and unwilling to learn about something outside of your comfort zone? That to me, defeats the purpose of higher education.

If I could make it my duty to study literary theory and Jane Austen, then it should be the duty of others to step outside of their boxes, and learn about Saul Williams and Gill Scott Heron. Only then, will the game of academics score a point.

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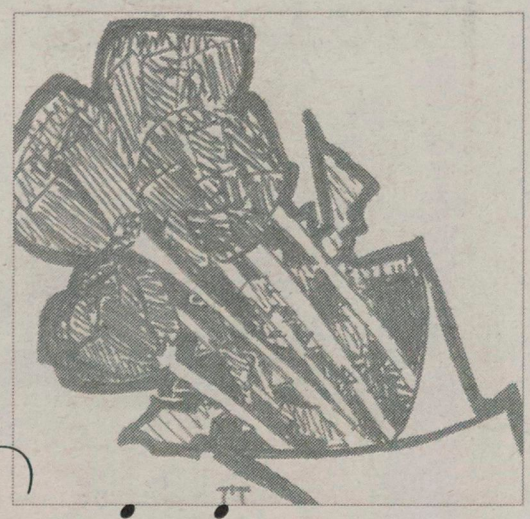


# Reviving Romance

Just 12 miles east of Middlebury lies a peaceful getaway from the nagging torments of academic deadlines. The town of Bristol is home to the Lord's Prayer Rock. What can a rock offer to a couple in the midst of a budding romance? This was the question we set out to answer.

On the side of the picturesque road, there it stood — The Big Rock. We approached it, we sadly confess, with some doubt of what a mere rock could provide us. We knew the story of Joseph Greene, the old Bristol logger who had the difficult chore of taking logs down the mountain road over nine dangerous bridges to the mill. Whenever he reached "The Rock" he would say the Lord's Prayer because he had, once again, made it safely down the mountain. We, however, could not quite find the connection between what he had experienced as a boy and how that warranted our little hiatus from school. None of us wanted to admit that we were untouched, for we had heard so much about the Prayer Rock. Its beauty was undeniable, but its meaning somewhat unattainable.

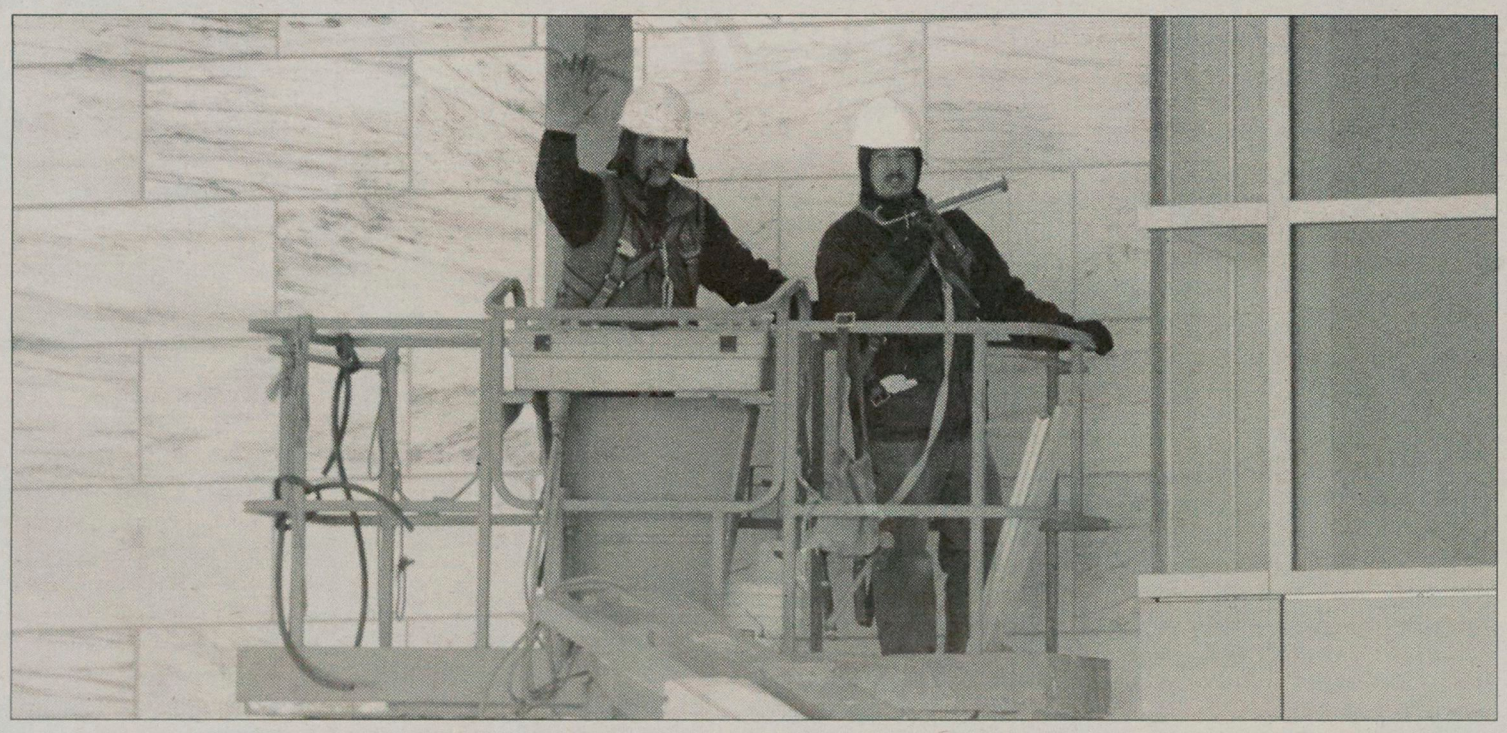
Bordering on the verge of discomfort, we all stared at the rock and wandered around it. Trying to break the tension Kelsey shouted, "Moose!" Drew, caught off guard, tripped over the laces of his smelly hiking boots — which we girls had begged him not to wear — and fell to the ground. Gena, with maternal instinct in full throttle, rushed to his aid. It turns out, Drew had only minor injuries and a barely bruised ego. With the imaginary moose to blame, we all collapsed into fits of laughter. We sat near the Prayer Rock and just enjoyed each other's company.

That grew old very soon, so we gathered some belongings from the car to set up our picnic. With our stolen Proctor silverware and big cups in tow, we were all ready to lay out our big Middlebury sweatshirt material blanket and eat the sandwiches we had made earlier that day. However, we had forgotten that the ground was, everywhere, blanketed with snow. Gloomily, we moved our intimate picnic into Kelsey's jeep. For new couples, a picnic is an ideal setting for long getting to know you talks, but be sure you venture out on a bright spring day, not in the middle of February.

There was no price tag on this outing, and while it lacked some of the prepackaged thrills of a movie or bowling, it was quietly stimulating and refreshing. As we left, we realized that just as Joseph Greene looked back on his youth and remembered a place where he felt piece of mind, we too could now do the same.

— Kelsey Van Wart, Gena Schiffenhaus & Drew Edlestein

## WORKING THE WINDOWS



**Waving from atop a lift,** two construction workers take a moment's pause from work on the new library, scheduled for completion for next fall semester.

Photo by Vlad Lodoaba

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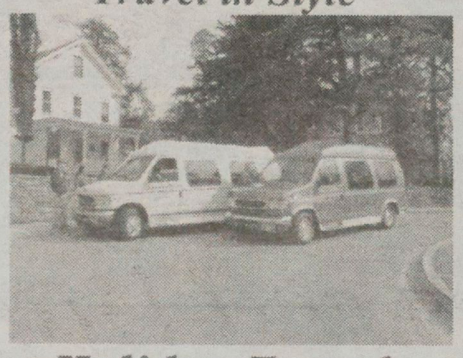

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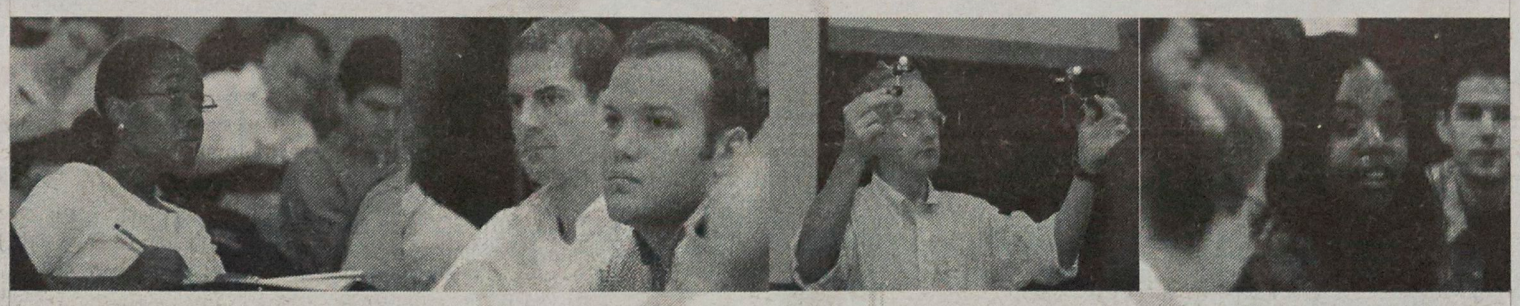
Your Dream: "I want to become a doctor."



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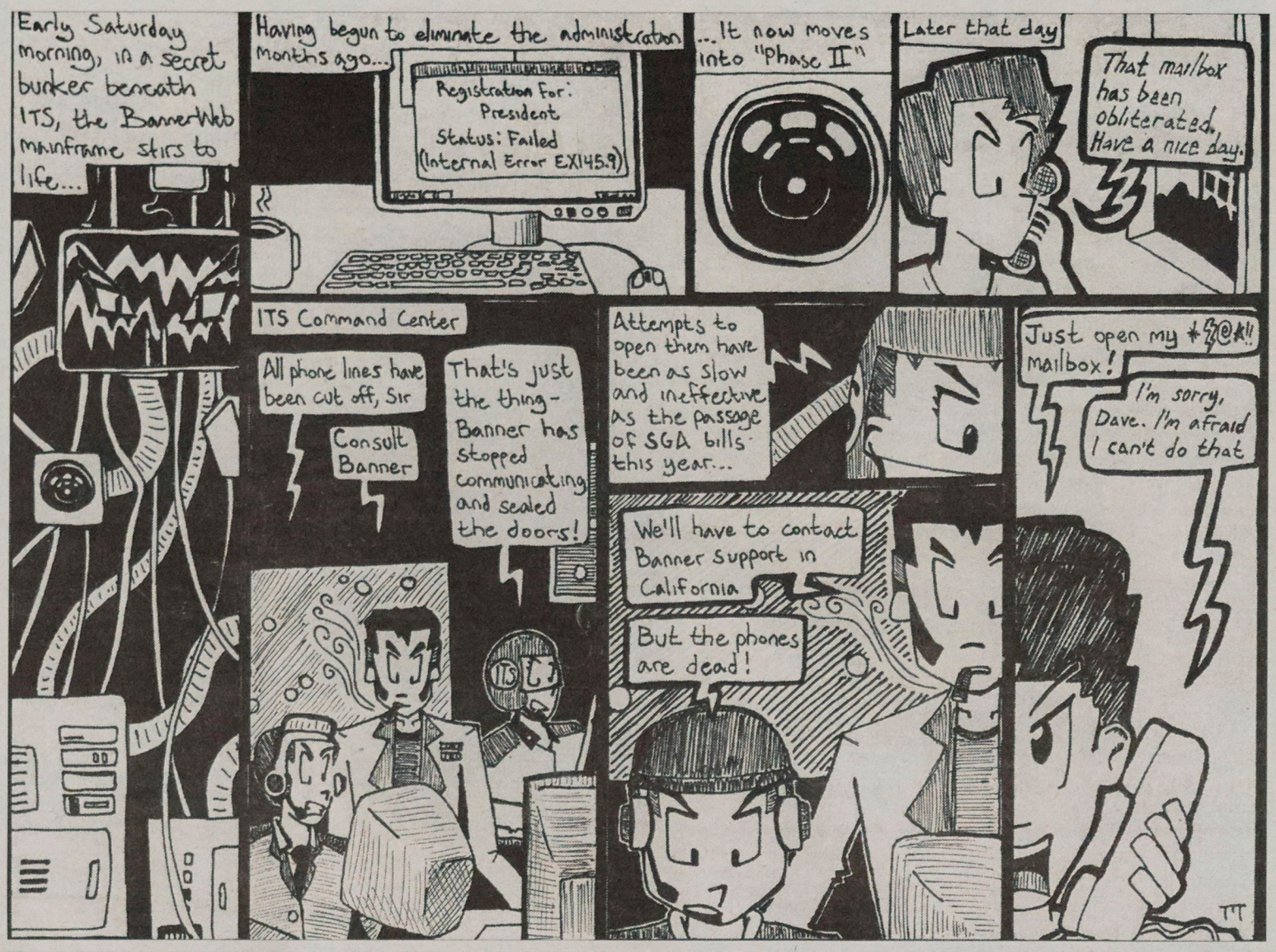
# opinions


Early Saturday morning, in a secret bunker beneath ITS, the BannerWeb mainframe stirs to life...
Having begun to eliminate the administration months ago...
Registration for: President
Status: Failed
(Internal Error EX145.9)
...It now moves into "Phase II"
Later that day
That mailbox has been obliterated. Have a nice day.
ITS Command Center
All phone lines have been cut off, Sir
Consult Banner
That's just the thing - Banner has stopped communicating and sealed the doors!
Attempts to open them have been as slow and ineffective as the passage of SGA bills this year...
Just open my *%@*!! mailbox!
I'm sorry, Dave. I'm afraid I can't do that
We'll have to contact Banner support in California
But the phones are dead!
ITS
TT

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# Editorial

## Separate is never equal

American schoolchildren are taught to revere the Constitution. It's a living document — indeed, an inspired one — that has extended the embrace of liberty to the disenfranchised and dispossessed throughout U.S. history. Famed playwright Tony Kushner has elegantly observed that the true motion of freedom is outward. It's about pulling more people into the United States' free society, not erecting new barriers to inclusion.

That's why George W. Bush's endorsement of a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage is so troubling. Such an amendment would exclude gays and lesbians from "the most fundamental institution of civilization," as Bush phrased it. And the president is prepared to tinker with the country's most fundamental document — the Constitution — to ensure that his definition of marriage between one man and one woman prevails.

Bush's harping on the sanctity of marriage — "Marriage cannot be severed from its cultural, religious and natural roots without weakening the good influence of society," he said — makes clear that he confuses the podium with the pulpit. The distinction between marriage as a secular and sacred institution is one Bush repeatedly fails to grasp.

When he addresses the nation, he should bear in mind that not everyone shares his evangelical views — or, for that matter, his heterosexuality. His attempt to legislate morality and to enshrine bias in the Constitution is nothing short of an affront to the American way.

Perhaps worst of all, Bush shrouded his distaste for gay rights in the deceptive rhetoric of compassionate conservatism. He pledged the government should "respect every person." He called upon the American people to conduct debate "with decency and goodwill." And through it all, he conferred the legitimacy of his high office onto an amendment designed to institutionalize second-class citizenship for gays and lesbians in America.

Black History Month reminds us that separate is never equal. Though the Constitution has evolved toward greater inclusion, there's no guarantee that outward motion will continue, least of all under this administration.

Bush concluded his remarks by recommending that the debate proceed without bitterness or anger. He'd prefer to relegate gays and lesbians to a societal backseat without encountering resistance. But the principles upon which the union rests demand bitterness. They demand anger. And most of all, they demand a wholesale rejection of Bush's patronizing attempts to disguise his bigotry as moral conviction.

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The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's Web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during offical college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0 and is printed by BD Press in Burlington, Vt. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

# Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I am biochemistry major with a math minor, and if I had not taken my J-Term class, I would not also be a literature minor. I believe that J-Term is just the type of thing that makes Middlebury a liberal arts college. My J-Term course was called Revolution and the Historic Novel. I loved all of the books we read, but what I loved more was the structure of the class. It was all discussion — every other class we made a presentation to the class as a group. We led discussions and asked questions about the reading. We had no tests or papers, but had reading quizzes. If I had not taken this course, since I am a math and science major, I would not have decided to also minor in literature. As far as the work goes, I worked plenty during J-Term doing reading and meeting with my group. J-Term is vital to Middlebury College, and if it is abandoned, my opinion of the commitment to academics and the love of learning that this place engenders will be called into question. Most of the professors I have spoken with love J-Term. I guess from their prospective, it is one more class to teach during the academic year, but they get to teach something they really love and they get every other year off. I do not see what the problem is. I know professors at other institutions would love this opportunity.

Sincerely,
Nicholas Arger '07
Reno, Nev.

To the Editor:

Your February 19 article about the College's new housing policy [College unveils new housing policy] cites "preparation for the real world" as an argument against additional limitations on student migration off campus. The students quoted in the article do indeed seem as if they need an introduction to the real world. In the real world, e.g., in the market for rental housing, market realities prevail. If landlords are unwilling to defer lease commitments until students get permission to move off campus, then there is obviously sufficient demand for rental housing in Addison County without catering to students. Otherwise, students would have the bargaining power to keep their options open. In the real world, people live with their choices.

Every Middlebury student has prevailed in an intense competition for the chance to study at a residential college. If you thought that dorm life would be too confining or demeaning by the time you were a senior, you could have matriculated at an institution with a different approach to student housing. Finally, in the real world, people confront the ethical implications of their actions. By the time they are seniors, if not earlier, Middlebury students have the option of living in college housing that is pleasant, well maintained, convenient, relatively inexpensive and in many instances architecturally significant. The non-students with whom you compete for scarce rental housing in the community do not have that option. I spent four years in Middlebury dorms and the ensuing 20 years in the "real world" of landlords. Overall, the dorms were better.

Sincerely,
Donald M. Kreis '80

# A 'Dry' perspective on Winter Term

In thinking about how to make the case for Winter Term, I realize that not every faculty member loves it as I do, that it involves an extra course every other year, and that in some disciplines the shortened 12x week semesters exact a toll in terms of coverage. In what follows, I will try to tell you why I think our Winter Term deserves to be retained.

Winter Term at Middlebury provides an opportunity for students and teachers to come together in concentrated common study. It encourages faculty members to broaden, as well as deepen, their education — to be students as well as scholars. During the regular semesters, there are some opportunities to do this. But for the most part, regular-semester courses are identified with a department and a discipline and are designed to cover a certain body of knowledge. College teachers are expected to know something and to be able to teach it — for most courses it is not enough for a teacher to be an eager student and a good reader. This opportunity for concentrated study has worked marvelously with beginning foreign language classes.

Because teachers teach and students take but one course, a strong bond between teacher and students develops. In addition, it is a wonderful time for collaborative teaching. The presence of two teachers in a small class 15 to 20 students encourages discussion rather than lecturing: students learn to talk — and listen — to one another, not just to one "authority." My co-teachers also bring a different teaching style into class, and that enhances the educational experience.

Last month I read the *"Histories"* of Herodotus with Professor Marc Witkin [Classics] and 15 students. I say that I read Herodotus rather than taught it because — unlike my colleague, who brought his knowledge of Greek language and literature — I had never studied the *"Histories"* before. I was reading it fresh, just as almost all of our students were. Of course, I could have read the book by myself, but as any teacher knows, the best way to study a book that deserves careful reading is to teach it. Liberal education joins reading good books in private with conversation about them together in a class. The students benefited from my colleague's insightful reflections on the argument of the work as a whole, my efforts to make sure that we discussed the entire work, and our questions of one another as well as of them.

There are two arguments for eliminating Winter Term which merit recognition: courses with standard content — first-year calculus, for example — cannot be taught in 12 weeks without cutting something or proceeding too quickly, and preparing for and teaching Winter Term and having but one week to complete the grading for that course and prepare for the spring semester is a lot of work.

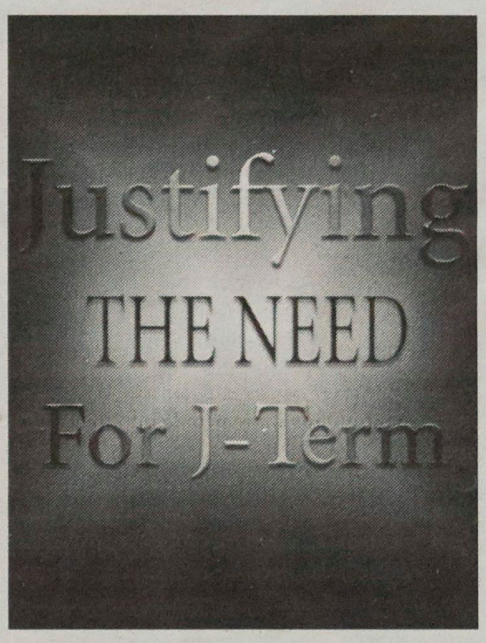
The Revised Winter Term proposal addresses these concerns as much as possible.

Additional days — from two to five — are allotted between the winter and spring semesters, and faculty are allowed to spend up to two weeks away from campus during their "released time" year. Furthermore, I have been told that faculty can obtain permission to travel for the entire four-week period, with a sufficient reason, such as a special research opportunity far away.

The students' almost unanimous support for Winter Term is not simply a vote to have four weeks of skiing and partying. At a recent meeting sponsored by the Educational Affairs Committee, a colleague of mine not the author of the recent e-mail — who is on the Reappointments Committee reported that, based on teaching evaluations that another colleague had read, students often worked 20 to 25 hours a week out of class for their Winter Term courses. I think the time is both a change of pace and an opportunity, which many students take advantage of, for focused intense study in something different.

To conclude, there are two clear "costs" to Winter Term: it adds an extra teaching preparation every other year those who have released time are, with few exceptions engaged in administrative work: wouldn't you rather teach? and some courses in some disciplines lose something with the 12 — rather than 13 and a half — weeks of teaching. As with many practical matters, the choice has to be made between competing benefits. Considering what the College community as a whole does during Winter Term — new courses, collaborative teaching, internships, practice teaching, comprehensive examinations, recruiting etc. — I think the benefits of Winter Term clearly outweigh the drawbacks. Finally, as we take teaching evaluations, so we should take student judgments about Winter Term seriously. They know an educational good thing when they experience it.

Murray Dry
Charles A. Dana professor of political science at Middlebury College




# Four unforgettable winters...

J-Term has greatly enhanced the quality of my experience at Middlebury College. J-Term has allowed me to take classes in other fields, focus more in depth on my major, and explore career opportunities through an internship. Equally as important, J-Term is a time where friends are made, school spirit is embraced and students have time to experience Middlebury College at its best.

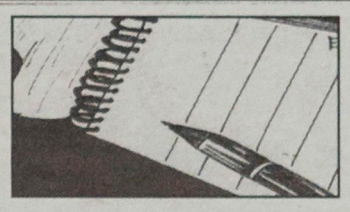
In my four J-Terms I've completed a music class, a geography class, a medical internship and a neuroscience senior seminar. I would have never had the opportunity to take these courses without J-Term and have found them all highlights of my time here at Middlebury. Taking a neuroscience senior seminar during J-Term probably seems insane to most people, and honestly, I originally enrolled because I needed it to graduate. However, in our 4-person class, I was able to synthesize a huge amount of information and integrate knowledge from all of my neuroscience classes in order to make this 4-week class one of my most engaging at Middlebury. I was able to learn the material in such depth that I could comfortably give one-hour lectures each week on a variety of topics. This was an opportunity I would never have had in a 2-semester system.

J-Term has also given me the opportunity to complete an internship at Fletcher Allen Hospital in Burlington. In general, J-Term is a great time to do internships because few college students compete for positions during January. The lack of competition allows for Middlebury students to get more attention from their hosts. Completing an internship during J-Term also allows students to reflect and absorb their experiences by writing journals and papers for credit. My internship with the Chief of Pediatrics at Fletcher Allen during J-Term my junior year was incredible. This experience helped me confirm my interest in medicine and gave me a great look inside the University of Vermont medical school. The medical students in particular were very helpful offering great advice on the MCATs and the medical school application process. My J-Term internship directly influenced my career goals and was one of the most worthwhile experiences I've had during my college education.

I picked Middlebury because I knew I would be able to balance all aspects of my life. J-Term has had a big role in allowing me to have this balance. Being a two-sport athlete at the Division III level is wonderful because I'm not required to participate in team related things in the off-season. When I'm in season I spend the majority of my time doing schoolwork and playing field hockey or lacrosse. This is my choice and I love every minute of being on a team, but I definitely love the opportunities in J-Term because it balances me out. Some of my best friendships have been developed during J-Term because I meet new people by participating in intramural sports and workshops. I'm able to embrace more of the "Midd culture" because my time is less restricted. IM hockey, basketball, broomball, salsa and meringue dancing, ballroom dancing and chi qung have been some of my favorite J-Term activities over the past four years.

I hope that many others will embrace J-Term as I have and the faculty and trustees will understand the value it has in our lives.

Becca Brakeley '04
A Neuroscience major from Middlebury, Vt.



## NOTES
FROM THE DESK

Make no mistake Middlebury College has a phenomenal sports program. My only wish is that the athletes that pull on a Middlebury uniform had the fans that they deserve.

This fall, for example, the women's cross-country team ran to NESCAC and then NCAA Championships in virtual anonymity. Men's soccer went to the semi-final of the NESCAC Tournament although less than 50 people watched them beat Tufts to advance that far. The women's golf team won an invitational at Williams and then won in Middlebury too, anyone remember that? Oh, and the field hockey women rode a 19-0 season to the NCAA final, before suffering their first defeat. Each game they played drew a maximum of 200-250 fans. Where was everyone?

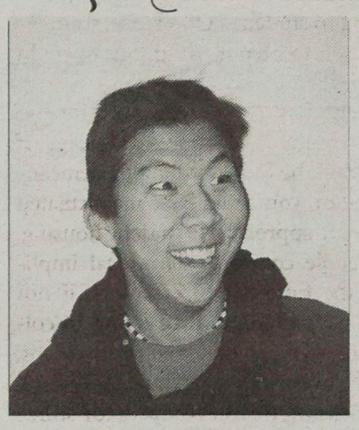
Now immersed in the winter sports, our athletes have continued to do us proud, albeit in relative silence. The nordic and alpine ski teams have won an incredible four out of their first five carnivals, competing against Division-I schools in the process. How many people do you hear talking about their accomplishments? Our men's hockey team has just clinched home-ice advantage throughout the play-offs, our women's hockey team ended in a tie for first place in NESCAC, only losing home ice advantage on a coin toss and our indoor track athletes continue to shatter personal bests with frightening regularity. Simply put, we, as a college, are blessed when it comes to sporting prowess. My problem though, is that not enough people care.

Men's hockey, supposedly our marquee sport, drew a sellout crowd of 2,600 last weekend when top ranked Norwich rolled into town. That's great, but why did it take all season to fill Kenyon Arena? Where had everyone been all season and how come so many failed to stay behind to watch the women beat Williams that evening?

On behalf of a mute student-body, I would like to honor our coaches, our athletes and everyone associated with our sports program. To you all, I thank you for your efforts, and apologize you don't have a student body worthy of your commitment. Go Midd, I guess.

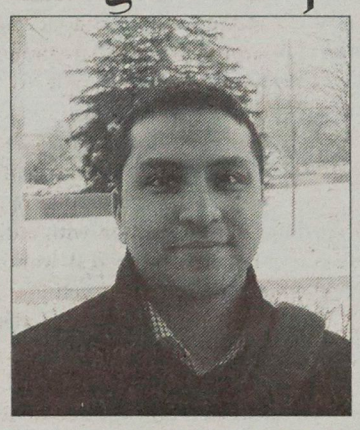
*—Tom McCann*
*Sports Editor*
The Middlebury Campus

## The Middlebury Campus online poll



YES, IT IS TAKING HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION OUT OF REACH OF THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST.

—ANDREW CHAE '06



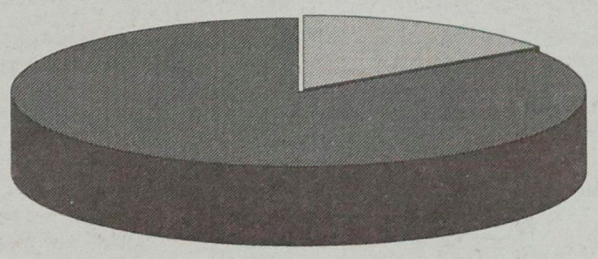
DOES THE COMPREHENSIVE FEE MAKE MIDDLEBURY EXCLUSIVE OR IS IT A RESULT OF AN EFFORT TO CULTIVATE AN EXCLUSIVE CULTURE?

—BILAL HABIB '04

NO, SINCE MIDDLBURY OFFERS EVERYONE FOUND TO QUALIFY FOR THE SCHOOL FINANCIAL AID.

—MARGUERITE CORBIN
FINANCIAL AID REPRESENTATIVE

DOES THE HIGH COMPREHENSIVE FEE AFFECT THE ACCESSIBILITY OF MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE TO A NUMBER OF GIFTED STUDENTS?


No, financial aid allows anybody who works hard enough to access this school.
Yes, it is too expensive for too large a number of people.

Results based on 97 responses collected between Feb. 17 and Feb. 24 at www.middleburycampus.com

Next Week's Poll Question: Is winter carnival really about a carnival in winter or is there a hidden truth to this day off?

I am a recent graduate of Middlebury College, and I'm writing to express my disappointment with the faculty's movement to alter or dispense with the College's "J-Term" winter semester. As I draft this letter, two Middlebury applicants are preparing to interview with me later this afternoon as part of the College admissions process. I'm sure they are eager to discuss Middlebury's many tremendous attributes, but I wonder how I'm going to explain to them the merits of why one of the College's most unique programs — it's "J-Term"— might be dismantled this year.

Perhaps these applicants from top Chicago high schools (who are most likely also applying to Middlebury's competitor institutions) will readily see the faculty's perspectives on J-Term. Maybe they'll agree that it's just too much work for some tenured faculty members at one of the country's leading establishments of higher learning to develop and teach a one-month Winter Term course. Maybe they will understand the logic in some non-tenured faculty members' frustration over having to teach, do research and seek tenure while also under pressure to manage J-Term commitments.

Lastly, I can only hope that these applicants' parents will think that their more than $40,000 per year tuition payments should include the potential for an extra month of vacation for their junior and senior children at the College. Unfortunately, I won't feel comfortable casting J-Term's future in even the most positive version of the above framework.

If asked about J-Term by applicants, I'll convey an optimistic perspective on the potential for change in the academic calendar because that's my job as a Middlebury representative. However, despite my respect for the hard work of the College's faculty, I believe that those professors behind the movement to alter J-Term are behaving in a narrow-minded manner not befitting Middlebury's reputation. It should be an unspoken assumption that no tenured faculty member at such an elite institution as Middlebury College should seek to minimize his or her responsibilities as an educational leader, responsibilities which will always require additional effort than might otherwise be put forth in a less prominent arena. Faculty members seeking highly-prized tenure positions at Middlebury should be willing and able to fulfill the demands made of them while in the tenure track — without exception.

Those previously unspoken, if not unshaken, principles are what made my time at Middlebury such a wonderful learning experience. Another dimension to the J-Term debate at Middlebury is dismay over shallow student interest in scholarship during the short winter term. If faculty members are to be expected to consistently engage and enlighten their students during J-Term, then students, also selectively chosen to be at the College, should be willing to ante up in the classroom. Taking only one class during J-Term is a privilege, so students should approach their work with at least the kind of interest and passion with which they would tackle four courses during a typical semester.

Any complaints on their part that more attention to their minimal course load would interfere with their ability to ski or party is even weaker than faculty members' cries that they have too many responsibilities with J-Term commitments on the academic calendar.

During my four J-Term semesters at Middlebury College, I took an architecture course with Parker Croft, spent a month in the operating rooms at Northwestern University's School of Medicine, crawled though the "Physics of Thermodynamics" and wrote my history thesis.

Many of my classmates also used J-Term to their fullest academic advantage, faculty members never wavered from their commitments to us or to the College, and yes, all of us got to go skiing. It is my sincere hope the Middlebury College community will not place on the chopping block those crisp January days of working hard and playing hard.

CHRISTOPHER SULLIVAN '00
HISTORY GRADUATE WHO NOW LIVES IN CHICAGO, ILL.

## Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

As a first year, I did not quite have an understanding of what J-Term was until I got here. Now that I have completed my first, I am convinced that getting rid of it would be a mistake. I feel that J-Term offers students and faculty alike the chance to expand their horizons and step outside of what is familiar. I do not think it would be possible for some of the visiting instructors to teach for an entire semester, whereas a month is a more reasonable amount of time.

These instructors do much to enrich our academic experiences by bringing unique perspectives and stories to the classroom. They are an invaluable source of knowledge. That being said, J-Term also affords Middlebury professors an opportunity to delve into an area that they might not normally be able to. In short, given how many opportunities J-Term affords, I do not see why anyone would want to eliminate it.

Sincerely,
Zach Chen '07
Chicago, Ill.

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To the Editor:

I spoke to Stephen Clarke of the Student Educational Affairs Committee, a part of the SGA, and wish to address some errors/oversights I made in my letter last week. According to Clarke and minutes of SGA Senate meetings posted online, the SEAC planned to work on saving J-Term since the beginning of the year. They did not wait until the last minute to work on J-Term, and their measures are not half-hearted. However, that does not explain why the SEAC deemed it necessary to wait until a few weeks before the faculty vote to actually throw their full weight behind J-Term. Clarke explained that the faculty did not release its proposals until early this week, to which the SEAC then responded with the, in my opinion, surprisingly effective method of passing out informational flyers during meals in the dining halls.

But that still does not explain why the SEAC, or, more effectively, the SGA itself did not come out in support of J-Term earlier in the year. In the minutes of an SGA Senate meeting from Nov. 9, a proposal to "be heard on this issue" was struck down by President Sam Rodriguez in favor of following "protocol," and that "there will be a time for student awareness." What, exactly, this protocol was is unclear. Also unclear is why an elected official deemed it was his responsibility to keep the student body in the dark on this issue, on any issue. Regardless of whether the SEAC had its heart behind saving J-Term or not — I believe now that they did — I feel that SGA did not take appropriate, responsible, and effective actions to represent the student body in support of J-Term.

Sincerely,
Benjamin Golze '06
Orinda, Calif.

# My last words go out to J-Term

It would be easy for a graduating senior to acquiesce to the apparent opinion of the faculty during this review and say, "So what? I had a good run. If they want to change what Middlebury does in January, that's no longer my concern." I cannot in good conscience, however, allow any drastic reform to happen without sharing why J-Term makes Middlebury unique. I've had a fairly eclectic experience during my January's here at college. Freshman year, I took Italian 102, one of the languages in which I have gone on to major.

Sophomore year, I had the fortune to be in a French cinema course jointly taught by two visiting professors from the Sorbonne and last year, around that time, I had already begun preliminary courses at the Middlebury School in Paris. Besides these classes, I have benefited greatly from the myriad workshops offered by students and faculty alike at the College. This past January, however, I came to realize just what exceptional gifts J-Term affords Middlebury and its students. The Art History department perennially has few majors, typically graduating between 10 and 15 seniors per annum. In addition, the department requires all majors to write a thesis due in at the end of the spring term. The work, however, begins in September, when our methodology course begins and is attended by all of the majors so that we might cross-pollinate the seeds of our creative process.

In January, the bridge between method and practice, so to speak, we charge ourselves with the intense research of the topic we have chosen, pouring over as many books, articles and images as possible. As our advisor said, "You shouldn't have any fun outside the library for three weeks." I admit to have found some time covertly to enjoy other things, like waiting at the language tables, profit from the natural beauty that surround us at Rikert cross-country skiing center at Bread Loaf and even watch several movies, a lot of stuff to cram into three weeks. You may have reread this last section, wondering why I wrote "three weeks." Everyone knows that J-term, a term of one whole month, lasts four weeks, right? Where did that last week go? Was it clouded over by the alcoholic haze of week four parties or pushed aside like so little powder at the Snow Bowl?

Not at all.

A fact little-known by a large part of the College community extends great privilege to art history majors during this last week in January, though it is by no means an actively kept secret. At the expense of the institution, art history and architecture majors spend one week in New York City, a trip designed to expose and familiarize students with the heart of art and artistic activity.

An inspiring number of Middlebury alumni, young and old, have found great success in the art business in New York. This week represented our introduction to them and the world of potential that awaits us. I saw a chemistry/art history major '77 pull 14th-century Italian altars off the wall at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, I stood within the gallery created by a studio/art history major in Chelsea, I listened to a graduate of last year tell of how incredible she found her job. From all of these people, we received the highest respect and perceived a sincere interest about our own aspirations.

These experiences followed visits to various museums and private galleries, again paid for by the College along with our food and hotel rooms. In short, this trip stands as one of the finest experiences I have had here at Middlebury.

In closing, I do not claim that this is typical, nor should it be. It was singular, unique and abjectly wonderful. Not everyone will have the same opportunity, but in my humble opinion, it seems enough that some are able to. I would not presume to force professors, unenthusiastic about their J-Term schedule, to teach uninspired students. I would, however, ask them to consider the other side of the picture, and acknowledge that this time can be special, and it makes students feel that way too.

GEORGE LEBORDAIS '04
AN ART HISTORY, FRENCH-ITALIAN TRIPLE MAJOR FROM CHICAGO, ILL.

# ...Students, Professors and Alumni Speak Out

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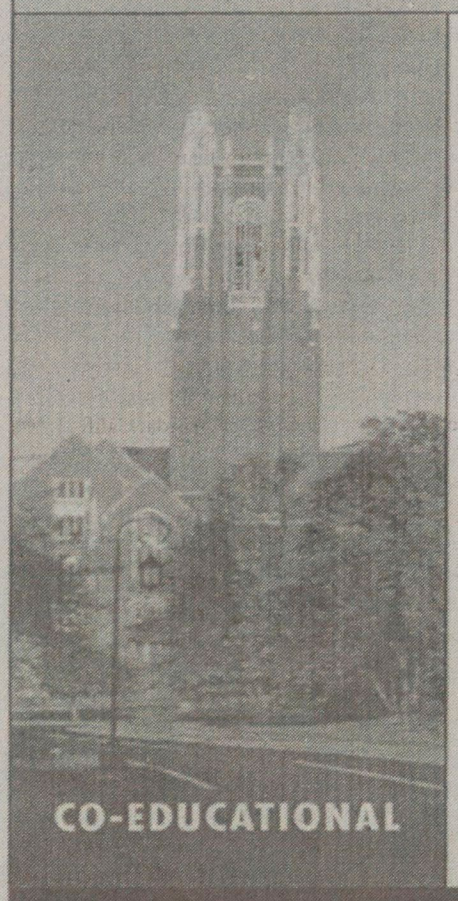


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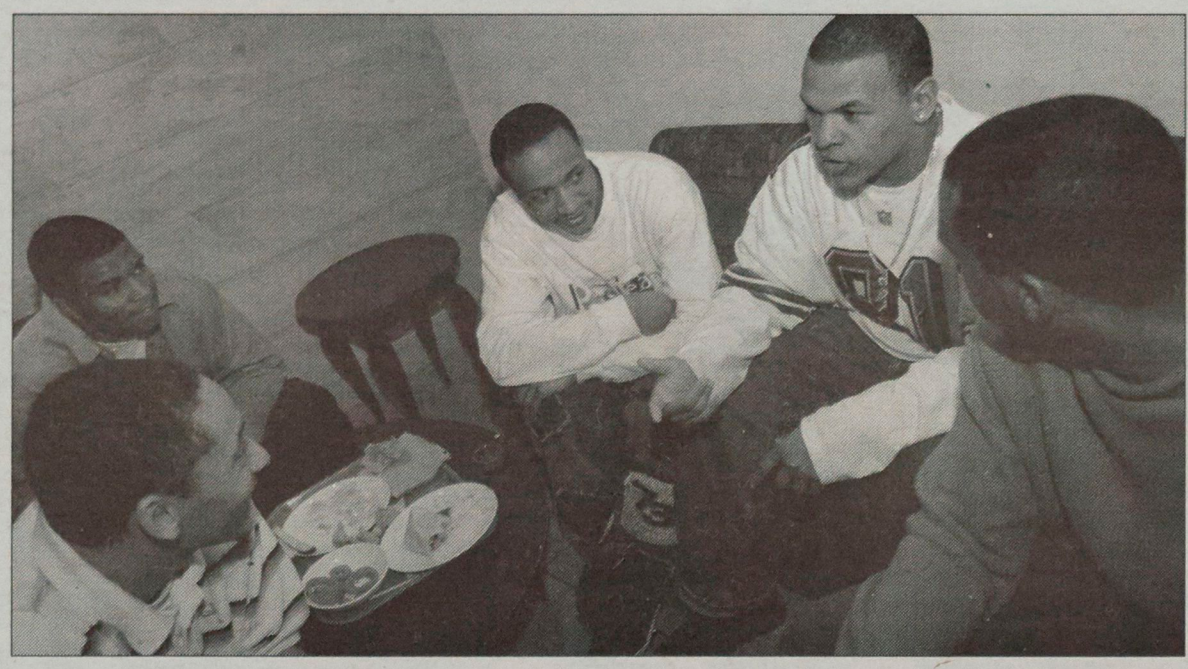


**The first of its kind:** DMC members Durrel Mack '06, Christian Ford '05, Edwin Semidey '06, Floyd Branch '06 and Marcus Clarke '05 convened in The Grille last week before the kick-off of their symposium, entitled The Harlem Renaissance and African-American Contributions to the Arts.

Photo by Vlad Lodoaba

# DMC sparks renaissance

By Venessa Wong
*Staff Writer*

Last week, Distinguished Men of Color (DMC) sponsored its first-ever symposium, "The Harlem Renaissance and African-American Contributions to the Arts," which began with a Jazz Concert at The Grille last Thursday. Symposium 2004, a four-day event, also included a faculty lecture, Harlem Renaissance Cultural Display, Def Poetry Jam and a closing brunch and discussion.

After what Club Vice President Edwin Semidey '06 considered an inactive year for DMC in 2003, he developed the idea of a Symposium to reinspire the group. "He was the man with a dream," President Christian Ford '05 said of Semidey. The 10-man organization geared the event towards DMC's overall goal of "breaking stereotypes of black males." "We invite people of other races and women to come," said Ford. "We don't want it just to be [for] black men … These events reach out to students. They're not just for the people in DMC."

Friday afternoon's lecture entitled "African-American Contributions in Music, Visual Arts and Literature to the Harlem Renaissance" in Coltrane Lounge attracted a diverse audience, as Ford hoped it would. Eighty people poured into a space originally set up to accomodate 40. The lecturers included Northeast Consortium Scholar in-residence Vermonja Alston, Professor of American Literature and Civilization Will Nash and Associate Professor of History William Hart.

Alston delivered a visual presentation entitled "Imaging Racism and Imperialism: Political Cartooning in Du Bois's Crisis, 1910-1934," which centered around 14 cartoons by four artists, Lorenzo Harris, Albert Smith, Romare Bearden and Jay Jackson. She intended to "trouble the borders separating art from politics and challenge students to engage in the sort of cultural criticism that will bring more scholarly attention to a long neglected field in the U.S. academy."

The next scheduled event, a talk by Nash, "From the Racial Mountain to the Black Aesthetic: The Ongoing Debate about African-American Literary Identity," addressed the relationship between black art and the popular white aesthetic standard. "I wrote a new speech [for this event] because I was so inspired by the staged reading of 'The Colored Museum'," said Nash, who originally planned to talk about the importance of folklore to Harlem Renaissance-era artists and writers. "I wanted to try to pull together something about two of the different positions that Harlem Renaissance writers took on this question [of what African-American identity is] and to trace how what they were publishing about this issue worked its way forward in various other movements in the development of African-American letters."

Hart closed the event with a delightfully musical presentation called, "Big Mamas, Mean Mothers and Super Sisters: The Ladies Who Sang the Blues, 1920 – 1929," in which he discussed the dominance of black women in the Jazz Decade, during which they made 75 percent of all blues recordings. "Black women sang about the frustrations of broken families and relationships, yet sang concomitantly about newfound personal and sexual freedom," said Hart. "Women enjoyed, or suffered, a new freedom of expression. Their stories are in the songs." He played a few pieces by way of demonstration, and the crowd laughed as they listened to the sexually suggestive lyrics that Hart highlighted for them.

On Saturday, DMC set up 16 photographic and biographical posters in the McCullough social space for the "Harlem Renaissance Cultural Display," a walk-through tour of pivotal Harlem Renaissance artists including Louis Armstrong, Billie Holiday, Eubie Blake, Aaron Douglas, Duke Ellington, Miles Davis and Ethel Waters. Incongruously, the music of contemporary hip-hop artist Kayne West played in the background as viewers explored the historical displays. "You can hear the influences of jazz music even in hip-hop," said Ford, who defined Jazz and hip-hop as "agent[s] of social change."

That night the Def Poetry Jam slammed into a packed McCullough Social Space. This event was the core of the symposium.

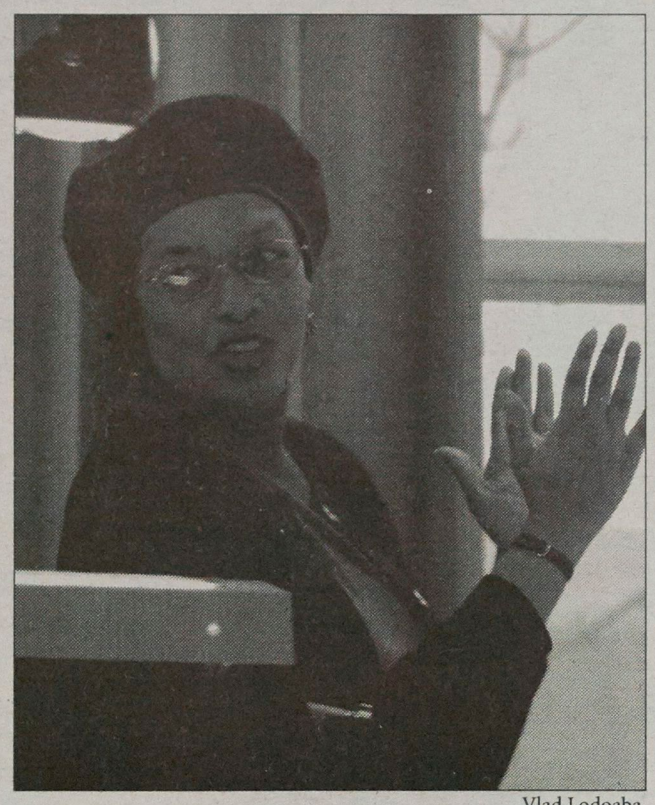
Three poets, Abyss, Lemon and Hebrew Mamita stunned and stirred the audience with their powerful performances. Their poignant words led viewers from rolling laughter to silent reflection. Rui Bing Zheng '04 cried after Lemon's recitation of a poem about poverty. "It was a great poem," she said, "We all need to be reminded of where we come from. This was a poem about thinking outside, which we don't do in the Middlebury bubble."

"Each of the poets had gone through hard experiences and I really liked that they made something beautiful out of them, and made artists out of themselves," said Ryan Johnson '06.

Zheng continued, "[The performance] brought up a lot of issues for the black urban community and opened a lot of [Middlebury students'] eyes to that through this art form. It was an excellent addition to the DMC's Symposium."

Sunday morning, a closing brunch and discussion was held in Coltrane Lounge. This concluding event gave participants a chance to informally express their reactions to the weekend's events. "Now I know what DMC is really about," Posse mentor Onis Cheathams said proudly of the success of the Symposium.

**Members of DMC set up display boards in McCullough Social Space on Saturday morning in preparation for an exhibition focusing on key figures of the Harlem Renaissance.**



Vlad Lodoaba

**Northeast Consortium Scholar-in-residence Vermonja Alston makes a point during her presentation on racism, imperialism and political cartoons.**

# Carnival: meaning in madness

## An historic perspective on wintertime revelry

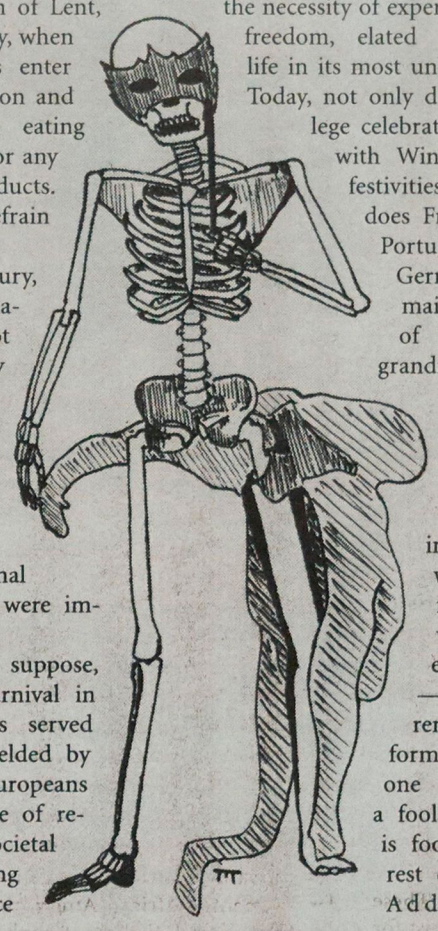
By Abbie Beane
*Features Editor*

In a prodding academic environment in which we are taught to question everything, accept nothing and relentlessly ponder the most trivial textual details, we never wonder about our reasons for partying. And when would we have the time to do so between shots of Jagermeister, keg stand competitions and pinning down the evening's object of our tireless lust? Sounds suspiciously like the blueprint for the annual Winter Carnival celebration — minus the wholesome games and the talent show of course.

Yet there is meaning couched even in this most liberating of social anathemas, and a rich history behind the spirit and origins of Winter Carnival. We're not the only ones who like to frolic in fresh powder, guzzle forties and wake up naked at 6 a.m. on a cold gym floor. Such worthy rituals have existed since ancient times, in cultures in Europe, the Americas and beyond.

Carnival, rooted in the Latin "carne," meaning meat, and "vale" meaning farewell (a farewell to meat or to the flesh), is grounded in as much history and culture as it is in drunken debauchery and nude rabblerousing.

Carnival can be traced back to heathenish times as an attempt to drive out the winter and the ghosts of darkness, who begin to lose their powers with hints of springtime warmth. The festivities celebrated the fertility of the coming season. However, early missionaries shifted the meaning to coincide with a more Christian ritual, commemorating Jan. 6 as the first day of the Carnival period, being the end of the traditional 12-day Christmas season. The last day logically then became the dawn of Lent, or Ash Wednesday, when devout Catholics enter a time of reflection and abstinence from eating flesh, eggs, milk or any other animal products. This period of refrain lasts until Easter.



At Middlebury, although the majority may not realize what they are ostensibly bidding farewell to on Winter Carnival night, it still behaves as though a close-out on the animal instincts market were imminent.

One might suppose, however, that carnival in the middle ages served as a weapon wielded by lower-class Europeans flying in the face of repression and societal hegemony, judging by the defiance students trumpet against all scholastic mores as soon as the bell tolls 4:15 on Thursday afternoon. It was a resistance against capitalism, an expression of creativity and unbiased togetherness and a time for eating, drinking and casting off one's cares.

In modern times, we retain our need for myths and continue to see the necessity of experiencing pure freedom, elated revelry and life in its most unbound form. Today, not only does the College celebrate the season with Winter Carnival festivities, but so does France, Spain, Portugal, Italy and Germany, which maintains one of the most grandiose parties of them all. Carnival, however, divides Germans into those who abhor it and those who eagerly embrace it — the latter reminding the former that "anyone who is not a fool at Carnival is foolish for the rest of the year." Additionally, when the New World was settled, the Catholic influence of these European countries fused with the voodoo traditions of African slaves and pagan traditions of the native North and South Americas to recharge and enrich the original festival. One of the largest carnival celebrations still takes place in Rio de Janeiro each year. And let's not forget the most famous of U.S. carnivals, Mardi Gras, which is held on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday in New Orleans, La., home to a lively Cajun culture stemming from French Canada.

Times haven't changed as much as we thought. Winter Carnival is still designed to encourage the shirking of inhibitions, still celebrated with much "merry drink" and perpetuates the tradition of wearing masks appearing good or evil, which represent the battle between the deathly state of winter and the warming nature of spring. Furthermore, we continue to elect a King and Queen of the ball, done also by early and traditional krewes, or groups of like people, who honored the idea of choosing a new royal court to replace the tiresome original for a night. So when the more "refined" class of people admonishes your boisterous behavior this coming weekend, just remember, you're not merely drinking to get drunk. You're helping to carry on one of society's most sacred, most spirited and most culturally grounded traditions.

## HOLY HANGTIME!

**TJ Reed hovers mid-air** while friends and fellow skateboarders look on from the steps of St. Mary's of Assumption Church in Middlebury.

Albert Bitici

## POPROCKS

BY LANFORD BEARD

While Sunday marks the celebration of the best (read: most lucrative) films of the year, Saturday parodies that trend with the 24th Annual Raspberry Awards.

Founded in 1980 by John Wilson, the Razzies is an admittedly low-budget production, which takes place in an untelevised Santa Monica hotel ceremony. Most impressively, the ceremony only lasts an hour, owing to the lack of crying-from-joy, overwhelmed-by-history Halle Berry moments.

"Gigli," the Beniffer film fiacso nabbed nine noms, leading the pack of this year's big losers. The only other films that come close are "The Cat in the Hat," "From Justin to Kelly" (eight nominations each) and the seven-times unlucky "Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle."

A new award this year comes in the form of "Worst Excuse for an Actual Movie." In this category a reality-inspired gem, "The Real Cancun," stands out in its own ray of sexed-up, oiled-down, empty-headed, liquor-filled sunshine.

Another notable contender is Cuba Gooding, Jr., up for "Worst Supporting Actor" for his combined work in "Radio," "Boat Trip" and the "Fighting Temptations."

Judging from the 2003 Razzie race, film stars and starlets should be able to avoid undying shame by minding several simple rules:

1) Don't follow in Jim Carrey's footsteps by re-animating a popular children's tale (yes, I'm talking to you, Mike Myers).

2) America may think you can sing, Kelly and Justin, but they know you can't act — especially when you use your own names and hometowns in a "fun" Spring Break movie.

3) Resist the urge to star in a film that begins with a mechanical bull ride or a booty-shaking dance sequence (only Lucy Liu can escape the carnage of "Charlie").

4) And most important, do not, under any conditions, be Sylvester Stallone.

Aside from J.Lo's bulbous posterior, Stallone is the real star of this (and every) year's show. As the official "Worst Actor of the Century," Stallone has netted nine trophies and 30 nods over his illustrious career.

This year, he played multiple characters in "Spy Kids 3-D: Game Over," giving him good odds to beat out "Celebrity Weakest Link"-winner Anthony Anderson, current Oscar-nominee Alec Baldwin and past Oscar-winners Al Pacino and Christopher Walken for 2003's "Worst Supporting Actor."

Says Wilson of Stallone, "He plays five different characters, none of them well, in "Spy Kids 3-D." He can claim he was in a movie that made $100 million, but he's still Sylvester Stallone."

# Bonding through shivering

## Outdoor orientation trips give Febs a chance to explore the woods of Vermont

By Astri von Arbin Ahlander
*Staff Writer*

When asked if it is difficult to be a Feb, first-year Kerren McKeeman said that Middlebury has done a great job making her feel comfortable. "Throughout orientation we were surrounded by a surge of Feb enthusiasm." After the five-day orientation ended, however, McKeeman and 60 other Febs took to the woods where the sub-zero temperatures made things a little less comfortable.

FOO! (February Outdoor Orientation), the equivalent of the September outdoor orientation known as MOO, ran two weekends ago. As opposed to last year, this year the groups were able to sleep outside instead of in Nelson Gym. FOO Coordinators Lauren Sherman '05.5 and Nicole Morris '04.5 oversaw a program that extended from six trips last year to nine this year. Six were snowshoeing trips and three were cross-country skiing trips. According to Sherman, the goal of FOO is to introduce new students to Vermont's abundant outdoor possibilities and to give them an opportunity to meet and create bonds with more students — both fellow Febs and upperclassmen FOO leaders.

"FOO was a great bonding experience," said McKeeman. "I'm not the 'go out and camp in the cold' kind of person," she continued, "but my FOO leaders were so enthusiastic and helpful that it didn't even seem that hard. After it was done, I felt a certain amount of accomplishment." FOO leader Julia McKinnon '06.5 echoed McKeeman's positive attitude. "We were in the woods to have fun," McKinnon said. "Students got an introduction to what there is to do off campus."

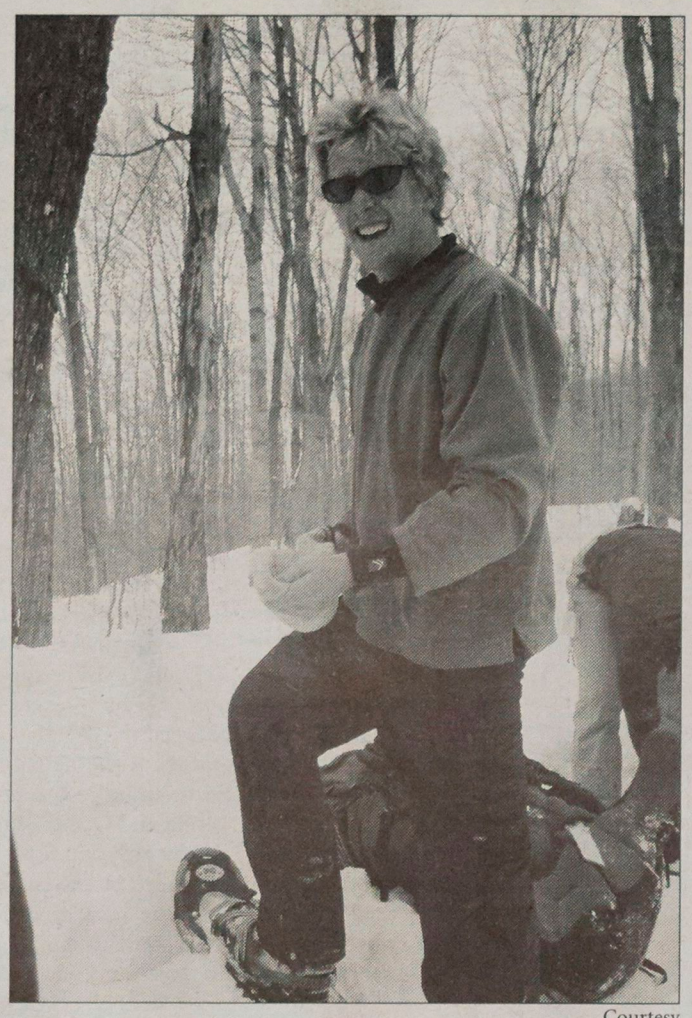
With temperatures dropping down to as low as 15 degrees below zero, McKeeman was surprised that no one got frostbite. "But our leaders were so prepared. They had extra gloves and extra blankets for whoever needed," she said.

The leaders play a key part in the success of the program. Becoming a FOO leader is not something you do overnight. In Sherman's words, "It is a huge commitment!" Leaders apply in early November and then spend two hours a week training in January. In addition, they also go on a weekend overnight to experience sleeping in the snow. According to Sherman, this, in combination with the fact that being a leader is completely unpaid, guarantees enthusiastic and involved students.

McKinnon found her Febs to be energetic as well. "Because not everyone had to do it, we had an enthusiastic group of kids," she said. Stephanie Kane '07.5 also praised the leadership. "FOO was an incredible experience because of my leaders. They had endless amounts of patience."

On her FOO trip, McKeeman snowshoed to the summit of Camel's Hump. The group got lost when the Long Trail blazes on the trees blended with the snow, but luckily, the FOO leaders saved the day. "My FOO leaders were so brave to take on all that responsibility. They were on top of everything," said McKeeman. Her group finally found the trail and proceeded to spend a night bunched together like sardines with Nalgene water bottles full of boiled snow stuffed into their sleeping bags in order to keep warm.

After square dancing and other bonding activities during regular orientation, being in the outdoors provided a change after the first week of classes. As Caitlin Littlefield '07.5 said, "It was great to meet people in a new element."



Courtesy

**It's cold out here:** Andrew Herzik '07.5 gets ready for a stroll on snowshoes.

Courtesy

**Snowy Landing: Febs take the plunge off a cabin during their orientation trip.**

Courtesy

**Frigid feast:** Passing a warm beverage after a long day. High energy foods like snickers and trail mix were staples on the overnight trips.

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**WINNERS & LOSERS**

**LOSER:** SKAT GIRL

YOU MAY NOT REMEMBER IT ON SUNDAY, BUT REST ASSURED THE PREVIOUS THREE DAYS WERE THE BEST OF THE SEMESTER.

**LOSER:** PARIS HILTON

ISN'T ANYONE LISTENING TO US? J-TERM WORKS FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL, AND WE'LL BE INVADING MIDD IN JANUARY REGARDLESS OF THE VOTE.

SHE'S AMERICAN IDOL'S BIGGEST LOSER, BUT SHE'S STILL AMERICA'S MOST FEARSOME AND DISTURBINGLY UNTALENTED HERO.

**WINNER:** WINTER CARNIVAL

SINCE WHEN WERE SIMPLE BUCKS AND BUSTY GOOD LOOKS A VALID INROAD TO COOLNESS? OH, WAIT.

**WINNER:** J-TERM

# From Costa Rica with care

By Lauren Miller and Nora Segar
*Guest Writers*

As soon as we glimpse land our eyes open wide. New landscapes, new geography, new colors and new experiences await us in the tropics of Costa Rica, thousands of miles from the knee-deep snow of Vermont.

We will soon witness a new way of life, a world full of soccer balls and active children and exceptional hospitality. As we step from the plane, gusts of warm wind and sunshine surround us and the Costa Rica we have all dreamed of for the past three months materialize.

The organization that brought us to Costa Rica is the Costa Rica Humanitarian Foundation. Developed in 1990, the organization has participated in over 50 projects across Costa Rica. These projects are both short-term and long-term, ranging from work with street kids from the capitol city of San Jose to the building of pre-kindergarten classrooms in rural towns.

**One day of service is more productive and engaging than one week at home.**

The organization's founder and director, Gail Nystrom, determined its visions and goals. Nystrom came to Costa Rica 26 years ago as a Peace Corps volunteer. After her two years ended she felt a strong connection to Costa Rica and a need to return and continue serving its people.

In just one week our group experienced a similar connection. In response to this connection and to her time in the country, Nystrom wrote, "It is hard to explain to people what this experience is all about. It always seems like more than a week and at the same time, less than a week."

A week might seem too short to have an impact on a place but as we soon realized, one day of service can be more productive, engaging and fun than one week at home. We worked on several different projects, which allowed us to make the most of our time there, and also gave us the chance to work with various groups of *ticos* (Costa Ricans). Our main project was to assist in the opening of a Montessori School in the community of Piedades, where we painted a mural, cleaned and organized the outdoor play area and created teaching materials for the classroom.

We also ran an eco-camp for 10 kindergarteners and initiated a project called "Art in the Park," through which we brought art supplies to the park for children and adults alike to explore their own creativity. Once we better understood the projects we were involved in, we began to understand how each project supported the goals of the organization, and the needs of the community. We ended up carrying crayons and paper everywhere we went.

Courtesy

**A work in progress: three Middlebury students paint a playhouse for the Montessori school. Visible in the far distance is the skyline of San Jose.**

One of the most interesting aspects of the trip was staying with Costan Rican families. Two students were assigned to each family. We were amazed by how warmly we were received. Every day was another chance to explore the Costa Rican culture and way of life. Whether it was walking the cows at 5 a.m., participating in a birthday celebration, playing soccer or visiting relatives with a home stay family, each person had a unique introduction to Costa Rican life, both its oddities and its splendors.

In addition to being introduced to the Costa Rican lifestyle, everyone in the group had the unique opportunity to collaborate with other Middlebury students who they might not have known before.

**Each person had a unique introduction to Costa Rican life, its oddities and its splendors.**

When we first arrived at the playground of the small Montessori School where we were to work, we doubted that we could even finish the mural. By the end of the week we had finished the mural, painted a small play house (the "Casita Bonita"), repainted the hopscotch court and still had time to play a game of soccer with all the kids in the neighborhood. It was amazing to realize what a group of 10 college kids can accomplish in such a short amount of time.

Leaving the country was difficult for the group. After a week of intense immersion, the reality of our privilege sharpened. At departure we realized how priviliged we'd been to see and experience Costa Rica. But we also realized how temporary our encounter with the land had been.

The extreme poverty of the country made us all realize the enormous contrast to the very comfortable lives we were returning to. The week of service gave everyone an introduction to what we can do to help and reaffirmed our commitment to doing more of this type of work and to the continuation of Middlebury-sponsored alternative breaks in the future.

Courtesy

**Done at last: Middlebury students smile at a job well done.**

# Horror of a regime remembered by Iraqi

By David Barker
*Features Editor*

Renowned Iraqi author Kanan Makiya addressed an audience last Thursday in Dana Auditorium with his thoughts on U.S. occupation in a speech entitled, "Identity, Memory and Democracy in Post-War Iraq."

Makiya supported United States intervention last spring to end the more than 35 years of Baathist rule in his home country.

Makiya spoke of how much worse off Iraqis were before Saddam's overthrow. "Iraq before April of last year was a land utterly without hope," he said. "25 million Arabs have a chance to live again."

Makiya, who has been advising the Governing Council in Baghdad, discussed the Iraq Memory Foundation he founded after Hussein was toppled in the spring. The Foundation has compiled close to three million pages of documents that archive the cruelty and suffering of Iraqis when the Baathists were in power.

"There is a need for society to acknowledge what happened to [the Iraqis]," Makiya said. "History can no longer be distorted or falsified," he added. Artifacts and interviews with Iraqis have also been collected for the project.

Makiya showed one of the interviews at the end of his talk and presented attendees with a brutal picture of Iraqi suffering. The subject of the interview, Shaoul Sasson, was held in the notorious prison known as "The Terminal Palace," where he was forced to confess to crimes he didn't commit. The subtitles gave horrific depictions of psychological and physical torture. Makiya plans on airing the oral history segments on Iraqi television.

In response to questions about the transition to power, Makiya said that some communities will not be ready by the June 30 deadline, but that the transition process has been very fluid and has involved Iraqis.

ALL THE ANSWERS TO YOUR PHILOSOPHICAL CONUNDRUMS

BY VENESSA WONG

Middlebury students are notorious for studying hard, perhaps too hard. Lost in a dusty web of textbooks, fiction and e-reserves, the typical student often finds it hard to make it out into the real world. Despite accumulating a powerful store of facts and theories through the four-year read-a-thon, the average Midd-kid often does not know what to do with it except use it as a foundation for collecting more knowledge. It's a thoughtful, though fairly inactive, lifestyle.

Friederich Nietzsche poses the question in "The Use and Abuse of History," "Must life dominate knowledge or knowledge dominate life?" Invoking a sense of optimism, he answers that "life is the higher and the dominating power, for the knowledge that annihilated life would itself be annihilated too." He admits to hating things that instruct without increasing activity and criticizes "the jaded idlers in the garden of knowledge" who use their knowledge not for life and action, but to avoid life and action. Nietzsche calls upon the youth to form "the first generation of fighters and dragon-slayers," and identifies their mission as "shak[ing] their foundations and the present conceptions of 'health' and 'culture.'" The strength of youth lies in its power "from an ever heightened feeling of life" that pushes it to act and fight, break up and destroy.

One may wonder what has happened to the rebellious power of youth at Middlebury. Students diligently plug away at their schoolwork, completing one task after another almost mechanically. Yet there is little bridging the gap between the concepts in their minds and a means of application. Lila Buckley '04 says, "One of the biggest weaknesses of Middlebury is that students and faculty have so much work that we have little time for meaningful engagement in the community surrounding us … Liberal arts is not really liberal arts unless it challenges students to apply what they have learned to change the world around them."

According to activist Ben Gore '04, Middlebury students practice a form of "radical academicism." "People think it's wrong to have an opinion without first reading everything that any Ivory Tower intellectual has written on the subject … The majority of Midd-kids are totally estranged from the real world."

However, the Career Services Office reports on its web page that one of the most popular industries that Middlebury graduates matriculate into is non-profit / social service. Then perhaps this ostensibly dormant campus is silently breeding a generation of fighters and dragon-slayers who awaken only after leaving their cozy nest. "If 'real-world application' includes everything from activism to internships, then I think that a majority of Middlebury students do tend to take their classroom learning into the real world," says Heather Cronk, community service coordinator for the Middlebury Alliance for Civic Engagement. "I'm not sure if a majority of Middlebury students do so in the passionate way that activism embraces."

arts

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# 'An Original American Beauty'

By Claire M. L. Bourne
*Managing Editor*

Clad in bottle-green, high-top Converse All-Stars, tight black pants and a jade-colored T-shirt adorned with the image of a young Bob Marley, Crystal Belle '04 bows her head for a few seconds before launching into her most treasured poem — "Size Me."

It is a Thursday afternoon, and Coltrane Lounge is filled to capacity with Belle's friends, acquaintances, professors and fans. There must be almost 100 people in attendance. As she navigates her way with ease through the poem's meter, rhyme and tight alliteration, audience members respond to her words with "yeahs," "uh-huhs" and nods of the head.

"Size Me" is the title track on Belle's debut poetry album, released last week to the Middlebury public, and it has come to encapsulate this young poet's mission. Her deeply personal work is touched by history, politics and economics, and she doesn't hesitate to take all three to task. "I'm giving people who don't have a voice a voice," she explains. And people are listening to — and agreeing with — her message.

Some might define her style as confrontational, which she acknowledges. She says she was nervous when she first took the stage at Middlebury in fall 2000, worrying that her work was "too militant." But if her performance last Thursday was any indication, that apprehension has long since fizzled out to reveal a confident, driven woman. "It's okay if people don't feel it. It's okay if it's too much for them," she says.

Raised in the Brooklyn, N.Y. neighborhood of North Flatbush, Belle constantly looks to her Caribbean-American roots for poetic inspiration. She wrote "Size Me" during her first year at college. Although she had visited the campus before matriculating, she says she "didn't feel the impact of Middlebury until [she] walked into Battell." Surrounded by mostly "skinny blonde girls," most of whom fit the Middlebury J.Crew stereotype, Belle's perception of life and of herself rapidly changed. "All of a sudden, I had to think of what I thought of myself," she explains.

"I am Caribbean-American, and we eat a lot of food," she declared at the album-release party. "Yeah!" a handful of audience members exclaimed in agreement.

An amalgamation of personal experiences feed Belle's poetic urge. And she has a knack for identifying situations and circumstances to which her audience can relate, as well. "This poem goes out to all the women who have curves, and who are proud of their curves," Belle says of "Size Me." It is a gorgeously irreverent piece of writing that simultaneously draws from her ancestry, Middlebury's homogeneity vis-à-vis her native Brooklyn and her personal growth — "I want to thank you for enslaving me, for it gave me the title of 'Original American Beauty.'"

Belle is a busy woman. Between academics — "there's so much pressure to do well," she says — and her leadership roles in the African American Alliance and the RIDDIM dance troupe, she carves out time almost every day to pen some poetry. Sometimes she jots down a few lines in class, and sometimes she visits Starr Library for some peace and quiet or The Grille to observe the caffeine-driven hustle and bustle.

She also found time over the December holidays to record her 10-track album. Thanks to some reconnaissance work by her boyfriend, who lives in the Bronx, Belle secured a couple of hours at a recording studio in her Brooklyn neighborhood. She describes the experience with a broad smile on her face — the giant microphone and the imaginary audience — as if she is reliving her brief stint there as she talks.

The actual recording process, she says, was the final step in a long labor of love. With more than 200 pieces in her poetic arsenal, Belle had to narrow it down to just 10. "I didn't want people to get bored," she explains, "so I tried to include as much variety as possible. There is a poem about love, one about education, one about politics." Her brother, a recording artist himself, helped her select the tracks.

The album opens with "Booty Pageant," an homage to "where I am from," Belle says. Bookending the track list at number 10 is "Hip-Hop II," a piece that reflects the indelible mark hip-hop music has left on Belle's life. "It inspires me to write," she reveals.

Another notable poem Belle chose to include is "The Shackled Liberation." Speaking to her "place" in the poetic tradition, she concludes that her work exists in its own space. The Anglo-American poetic community does not accept her — "Big brother says I'm not a poet because I don't seem to know it all and my intellect fails to stand tall like nature in Frost poems," she asserted, eliciting a chuckle from the audience. But "even in the black community I don't define poetry since I don't rock an Afro or grow dreaded locks."

Her poetry — don't call it slam poetry — defies definition. "It is rhythmic and musical, and it speaks the truth," she says.

As Belle continues to walk to the beat of her own drum — she says a nine-to-five job is *not* in her future — the ink will continue to flow. She hopes one day to publish a book of poems. For now, she's riding high on the positive response to her album. "It was something I wanted to do before graduating from Middlebury, even if I used all the money in my bank account," she says.

## ALL THAT JAZZ

Vlad Lodoaba

**Ryan Dunn-Komeh '05** pauses for a breath before she hits the next note. Dunn-Komeh performed at the Distinguished Men of Color Jazz Concert on the Juice Bar stage last Thursday. The event was part of DMC's 2004 symposium. (See page 16 for full story.)

# 'Museum' paints diverse portraits

By Ledah Wilcox
*Staff Writer*

George C. Wolfe's play, "The Colored Museum," performed in The Grille on Thursday, Feb. 19, conveying not only historical aspects of racism, but also the diversity of experience within the black community. Through satirical sketches featuring a variety of characters, the show portrays everything from the slave trade to a modern-day African American drag queen.

Sponsored by the Office for Institutional Diversity and the PALANA Center, the performances were energetic and secure, a cut above the typical staged reading level. Cast members were lively and enthusiastic, greatly helping to eliminate pace traps that staged readings so commonly fall into.

According to Assistant Director Athenia Fischer '04, the production began as a Winter Term workshop. "I just started getting people I knew were interested in doing something different on campus but didn't feel like they had the outlet to do that," she explained.

The best piece in the show was "Symbiosis." Featuring Kereem Morgan '07 as the "Man" and Kelly Gay '07 as the "Kid," the sketch examined the pressure placed on African-Americans to simultaneously maintain their black identity and assimilate in order to succeed.

In the scene, the Man throws away all that reflects his racial identity — records, books, pictures — while the Kid looks on in disgust. Eventually, the Kid cannot take it anymore and tries to convince the Man to salvage some of the items, prompting an argument over the virtues of success and maintaining one's awareness of identity and culture.

"The climate is changing," the Man tells the Kid, "and we've got to adjust or we wind up extinct." This was the most relevant, poignant and powerful segment of the show, since it shed light on a challenge facing many African Americans today. Morgan and Gay evoked the tension between the Man and the Kid remarkably well, considering that they were sitting on stools and reading from scripts. Their performances made it easy to envision the intensity possible when this piece is fully performed.

While Wolfe's play makes many compelling political points, the script occasionally succumbs to stereotypical humor and gags to elicit a laugh. In "The Gospel According to Miss Roj," for example, a transvestite named Miss Roj explains to the audience how she just "snaps away" the bad parts of life. Nonetheless, it was a well-written sketch, full of clever moments and enlivened by an interesting character. First-year Amaury Sosa's portrayal of Miss Roj in this sketch was one of the most consistent and well-developed, not to mention courageous.

Wolfe makes a remarkable effort to include a diverse array of characters, like Miss Roj in his script. "A lot of people have this skewed view of what black culture is, but just because people are black, it doesn't mean they all experience the same things," Fischer explained.

While Middlebury's production was solid, "The Colored Museum" as a script has its ups and downs. Some sketches are too long, others are scattered, but overall the show is an impressive piece of theater. Through clever satire, Wolfe manages to portray themes and struggles not readily apparent to the average Middlebury student. Fischer and the other students who made this happen got at the heart of the play and managed to propel the audience into a series of mindsets different from their own.

Fischer said it was a learning experience for cast members as well. "A lot of conversation was sparked among us, and we would talk about the different terminologies we were using, and they became educational discussions," she said.

Albert Bitici

**Christine Etienne '07 reaches for the sky as Kereem Morgan '07 bows his head in thought during a staged reading of "The Colored Museum."**

# Hoving earns Dana professorship

By Chris Grosso
*Arts Editor*

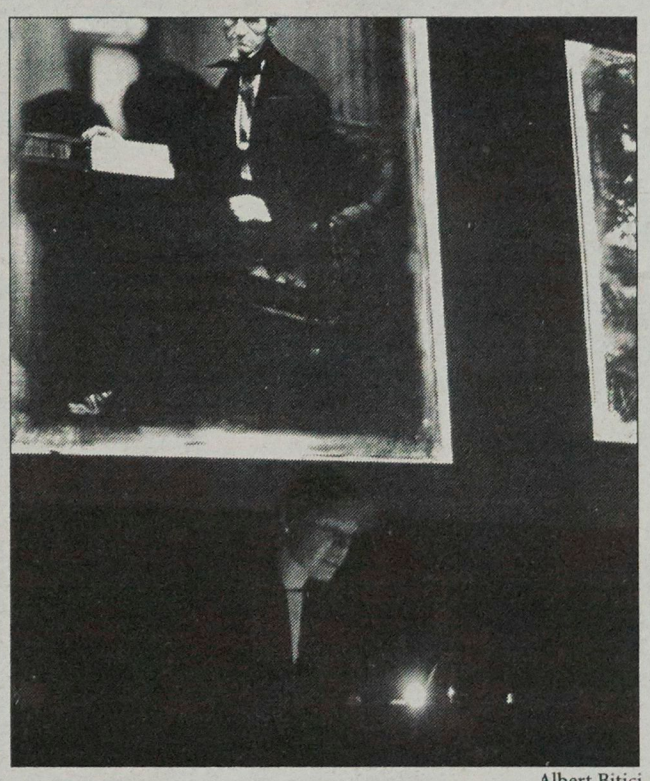
On Tuesday, Feb. 17, Professor of History of Art and Architecture Kirsten Hoving delivered her inaugural lecture for the Charles A. Dana Professorship in front of a sizeable audience in Twilight Auditorium.

President McCardell introduced Hoving and spoke a few words about the honor. The Charles A. Dana Foundation, an organization created to focus public attention on innovative ideas for strengthening American education, endows the professorship. Currently there are eight Dana professors in the Middlebury faculty. Charles A. Dana, the benefactor of Dana Auditorium, frequented Vermont and admired Middlebury. He once said that all colleges should look like Middlebury.

The topic of the day was "Photography's Burden of Truth: Meditations on an Illusive Art." Hoving introduced the topic by explaining she would be presenting a series of essays that she had produced in collaboration with her "History of Photography" course. The essays were reflections of the art of photography as a technical and artistic medium of visual expression. She investigated the reality behind the photograph, discussing both manipulation and photojournalism.

She commenced her presentation by flashing two photographs on the screen and posing the question, "do photographs always capture reality?" The first image was Gustave Le Gray's "Brig on the Water." The 1856 album in print appeared to be true-to-life, except that it was black and white. It turns out, too, that Gustave combined two negatives to capture the deep darks and light lights in the same picture. Hoving then skipped to the infamous Brian Walski photograph from the Los Angeles Times. The widely published image of an armed British solider and Iraqi civilians was a compilation of two photographs, joined harmlessly to "improve" the composition. Hoving emphasized that photographs were manipulated from the beginning.

Her lecture traced photography from its initial stages through the 20th-century, treating topics from Louis-Jacques-Mande Daguerre's revolutionary daguerreotype to Gardner's "Photographic Sketch Book of the Civil War" and William Henry Talbot's leading book "The Pencil of Nature" to Alfred Stiegltiz's "Portrait of Dorothy True."



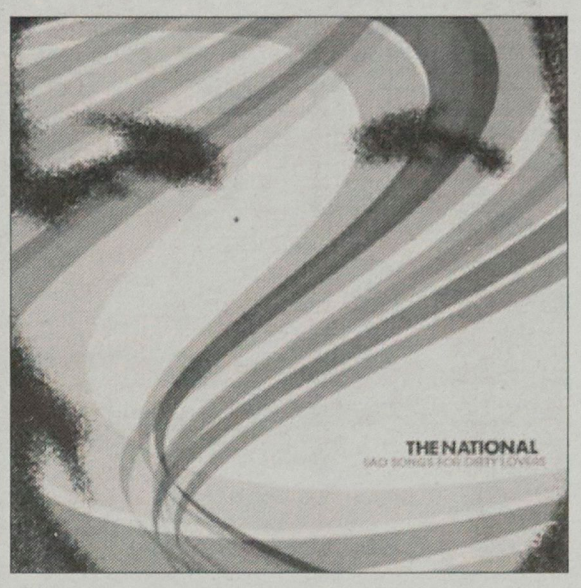
Albert Bitici

**Kirsten Hoving delivered her first lecture as the Charles A. Dana Professor of Art and Architecture last Tuesday.**

Hoving's appointment to the distinguished professorship is a culmination and symbol of her devotion, ingenuity and passion for art and education. She thanked the Middlebury community, especially her colleagues for their friendship and humor. Hoving has taught at the College for the past 20 years and has become an integral member of the Middlebury community. She is a department chair and has demonstrated leadership and dedication by participating on various faculty, hiring and advisory committees. As a teacher she lectures with the same energy, enthusiasm and expressiveness evinced by the master painters she addresses.

# BLOWIN' INDIE WIND

BY ERIKA MERCER




**THE ARTIST** | THE NATIONAL
**THE ALBUM** | SAD SONGS FOR DIRTY LOVERS
**RELEASE DATE** | SEPTEMBER 2, 2003

FEATURED ON WRMC'S "ALBUM OF THE WEEK"
THIS SUNDAY AT 9 P.M.

Drunk, you have slipped off your bar room stool, fallen down amid the pools of stale beer and mud puddles. You are broken, hands covered in filth, and this is your song of despair, your own brand of American disillusionment. But it is also your redemption, your moment of naked, terrifying honesty.

And this is where the music begins — down with the dirt and despair. At first a whisper in your ear, Matt Berninger's voice builds until you are aching with him, "Jesus Christ you have confused me / cornered, wasted, blessed and used me / forgive me girls I am confused / stiff and pissed and lost and loose." This is "Cardinal Song," the opening ballad on The National's sophomore album, "Sad Songs For Dirty Lovers," and true to its name, it will find your moment of vulnerability, your most fragile essence.

Berninger's voice is your own at that moment — slurred, deliberate, dripping. He knows that you are caught off guard and warns twice, "Don't let her see your cardinal eyes / don't let her see your cardinal eyes." His rough voice contains the marks of experience, the smoke from countless cigarettes and the burn from many shots of whiskey, yet his tone is never condescending. His is crawling on the floor with you, just as drenched in regret, and when he sings, "Let her treat you like a criminal / so you can treat her like a priest," he is delivering the message to himself as much as to you.

"With these songs, there's a lot I got out of my system," admits Berninger. "The songwriters that have the most impact on me are the ones that expose a lot of personal things in interesting ways, in honest ways. That might be indulgent, but I'd rather take that chance and walk that line than to be too safe or too saccharine." The National presents songs as catharsis — they construct anthems of lost chances and shameful decisions only to prove that what was believed to be so personal is in fact universal. Berninger's tales, while highly private, are also largely fabricated — he is not indulging in self-pity so much as exposing collective emotion.

For example, the second song on the album, "Slipping Husband," relates a tale of suburban disillusionment, as a husband reflects on the life he could have had — "You could have been a legend / but you became a father / that's what you are today / that's what you are today." His unnamed subject expresses our own feelings of regret — we do not need to have shared the experience to understand the emotion.

Yet while the emotion is universal, the music is distinctly American. Originally from Ohio but currently residing in Brooklyn, The National merge twangy country with more assertive rock, creating a picture of America that reflects the opens fields of the Midwest as much as the jutting high-rises of New York City. Berninger's tales cover this wide scope, presenting scenes of run-down bars and run-down people that exist everywhere from empty rural towns to bustling cities. He will find you, whichever bar room counter you sit behind. He will expose your tragedy, locate your hidden sense of romanticism, and then he will soothe you with his songs and let you know you're not alone.

The National will play a concert at Middlebury College on Saturday, March 6. Don't miss it!

# THE REEL CRITIC

BY AARON STRUMWASSER

**MOVIE | IN AMERICA**
**DIRECTOR | JIM SHERIDAN**
**STARRING | DJIMON HOUNSOU**

Two years ago, Martin Scorsese's long-awaited and very, very long "The Gangs of New York" assaulted audiences with its superfluous expository flashbacks and over-drawn booze-and-schmooze sequences, not to mention typically annoying music from U2. Scorsese's pseudo-epic is also a yawn-fest, despite Daniel Day-Lewis's prolific slaying of pioneers-to-be. Yes, the movie is ambitious — and yes, the violence, costumes and sets are convincing. But when you have more than $100 million to make a movie, extravagance comes naturally. Somewhere inside his bottomless purse, it seems, Scorsese lost track of what he set out to capture — how immigrants, many of them Irish, shaped our country.

With "In America," director Jim Sheridan has countered Scorsese brilliantly. Unlike Scorsese, who widened his thematic lens to accommodate the dawn of American street wars, Sheridan follows only a handful of immigrants — a Nigerian painter and an Irish family — trying to survive in contemporary New York City. And Sheridan's downscaled approach pays off. As the saying goes, less is more.

We meet the Irish family of four at border patrol, just before they enter the city. Shortly after moving into their apartment, Johnny, the father, struggles to find work. One night he takes his family to a carnival and risks their savings (a fistful of $20 bills) on a game to win a stuffed-animal version of E.T., playing "double or nothing" again and again. It's an agonizing scene to watch, almost unbearably so, but the elder daughter, Christy, magically keeps her family — and our hopes for them — alive.

The metaphorical implications of the E.T. doll are not as minimal as we initially suspect. Of course, we think the doll represents the "alien" transplanted family and immigrants in general. But the idea extends further, foreshadowing the arrival of a pivotal character.

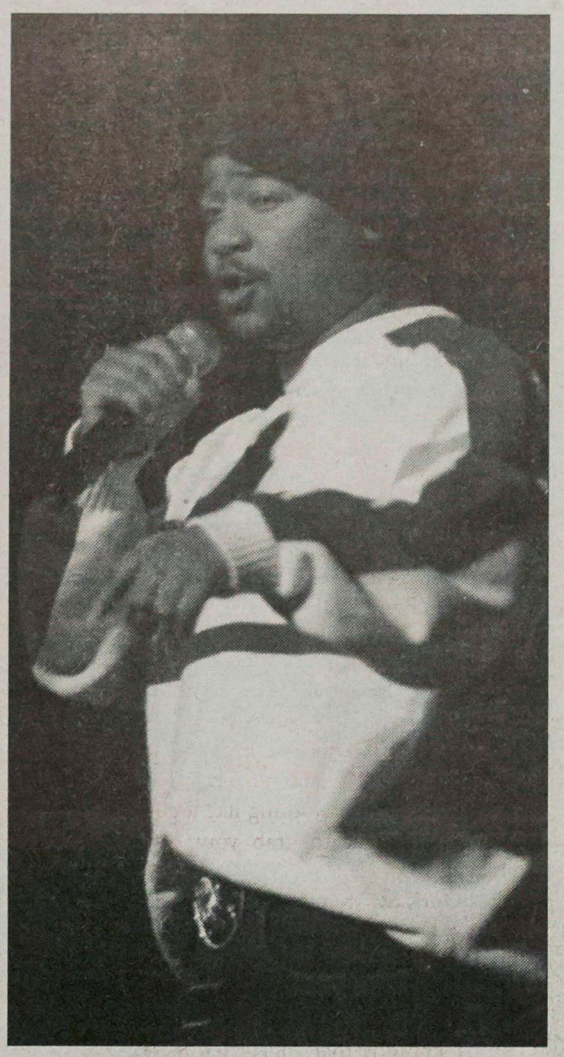
Mateo, the painter, lives desperately, but not because of a money shortage. Dying from an unnamed disease, he lives and works alone. But the two Irish daughters soon befriend him, and then he befriends their parents. He enchants everyone but Johnny. Jealous of Mateo's close realtionship with his wife and kids, Johnny confronts him in what becomes the film's most emotionally charged scene. Johnny asks, "Do you want to be in my place?" "I might," Mateo says. "Do you love my wife?" Johnny continues. Mateo erupts, "I love your wife. And I love you. And I love your children."

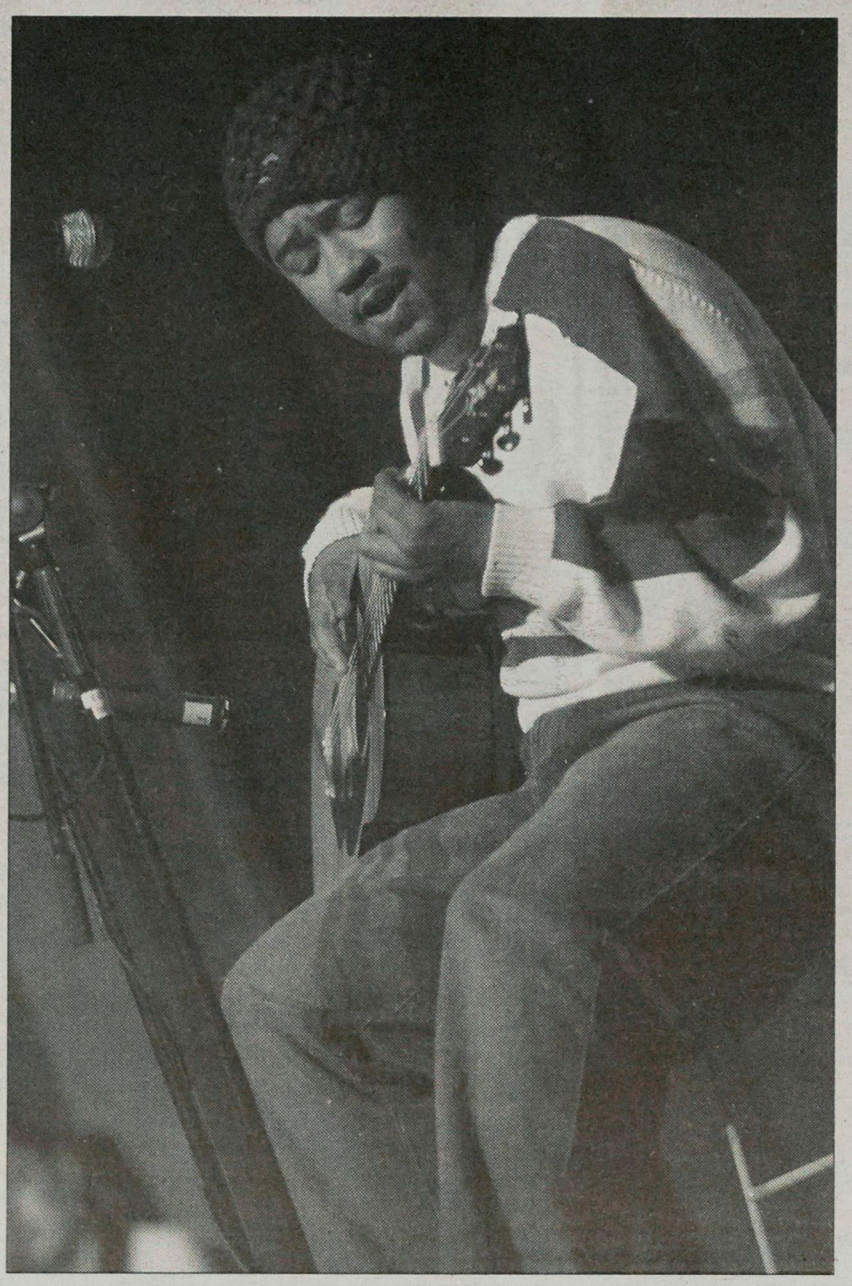
Bordering on melodrama, the encounter is nonetheless pivotal. Johnny needs a thorough rattling, and Djimon Hounsou, playing Mateo, delivers. Yet it is the female leads — Samantha Morton as Sarah, the mother, and Sarah and Emma Bolger as the two daughters — who turn in the most balanced performances. Their characters carry the family — so, naturally, their acting has to carry the movie.

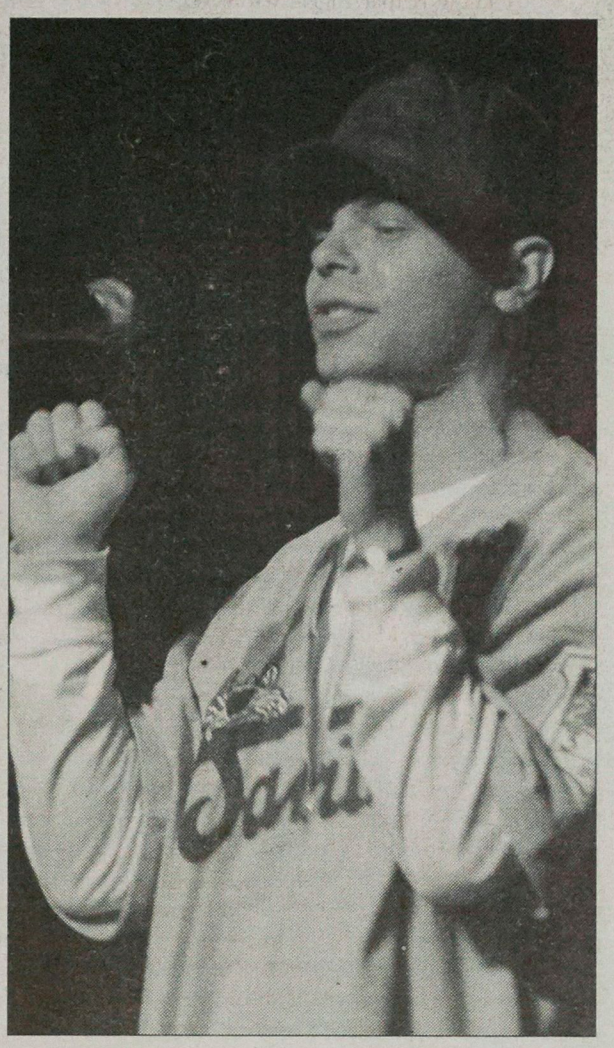
The film's creators, Jim Sheridan and his daughters, have said that "In America" is loosely based on the director's own childhood. But the Sheridans didn't let the facts get in the way of the truth. They seem to know that no matter where and when your story takes place, it eventually has to survive on its own. "In America" prospers.

# Poetic Justice

## DMC hosts renowned poets from HBO's Def Poetry Show







The Distinguished Men of Color hosted the Def Poetry Jam on Saturday, Feb. 21 in McCullough Social Space. The session was a display of prose in its most expressive and truthful form. The performers featured Crystal Belle '04 and three poets from the acclaimed HBO Def Poetry Show — Vanessa Hillary (left), Lemon and Abyss (below).

Photos by Albert Bitici

# Underground hip-hop surfaces

By Hans Manzke
*Staff Writer*

**Released in Jan. 2004 Dizzee Rascal's debut album "Boy In Da Corner" earned him global acclaim as a frighteningly talented, 18 year-old and the voice of a new generation.**

Perhaps it is because hip-hop was born in a state of "otherness," of almost complete opposition to the accepted musical norm. Perhaps it is because factions of fans and performers alike have grown tired of hip-hop in its most commercial cookie-cutter form. As hip-hop and its sometimes blander offshoot R&B become more and more mainstream with each contrived episode of TRL and Reebok advertisement, an unconventional vein has emerged: underground hip-hop.

The only problem is that most people don't know about this stuff — a true tragedy, since it's poised to assume the mantle of the tail that wags the proverbial dog. Enter the disciples of the "underground," powerful enough to move the masses (given the chance), yet keeping their ears firmly planted to hip-hop's terra firma.

Underground means different things to different people. To some, an artist has to be unsigned or signed to an indie label to be classified as underground. Some don't believe in the abstraction of art for art's sake, especially as regards the music industry. An artist can be underground through his or her attitude that is, his or her approach to music. Underground is more a state of mind than a defined, coalesced sound. It is the essence of hip-hop, where it was born, and where its heart will forever reside. There is an element of the underground in almost every worthwhile hip-hop artist.

Aesop Rock, Atmosphere, Binary Star, Cannibal Ox, Dizzee Rascal, Eyedea, Hangar 18, Pharcyd and Soul Position — just about anyone signed to the Definitive Jux label. These artists are classified as "underground." They are also very, very good. Nothing like a good rollicking value judgment to grab your attention, dear reader.

OutKast, Kanye West, Jay-Z, Notorious B.I.G. — these artists are classified as "mainstream," or some arbitrary permutation thereof, because they produce singles that American radio snatches and devours. What most people don't know is that Biggie wrote a song called "Suicidal Thoughts," or that Kanye West's new single "Through the Wire" saw the emcee/producer rhyme just weeks after a horrific car accident and subsequent reconstructive facial surgery, his jaw literally wired shut. "Hey Ya," and "The Way You Move" are great songs. My love for OutKast is exceeded by few other groups, hip-hop or not. But those who canonize the singles and ignore the other 10 or so songs on their new album fail to discover their true genius. When the listener learns of the full scope of their work, he or she may come to the realization that these such artists foster a truly underground state of mind.

Underground hip-hop is all about the unexpected, about keeping the listener speculatin', cogitatin' and internally and externally gesticulatin'. In fact, many underground artists come at you when, where and how you least expect it.

The triumph of underground hip-hop is foretold by the fact that some of its very best offerings are coming from some of the most unlikely places. Nineteen-year-old Dizzee Rascal hails from East London, having faced all of the violence and negativity that Tupac, Biggie or 50 Cent ever dealt with stateside. Still very much a child, he lets his ridiculously thick English accent bounce through delightfully obfuscated beats and samples, telling the stories of his and his peers' lives.

On the other end of the spectrum, The Rhymesayers collective, namely the duo Atmosphere, was born in and is based out of Minneapolis, Minn. The group's emcee, Slug, grew up part of the first great generation of modern American youth, a hundred times overexposed to popular channels of entertainment. In Atmosphere's newest release "Seven's Travels," Slug lets us know how he feels about the American entertainment complex in the song "National Disgrace": "I pledge allegiance to Budweiser and free drugs / Peace to Rick James, Anna Nicole Smith, Bill Clinton /And Motley Crue /And anyone else who has ever utilized their 15 minutes of fame / to realize their true dreams of being an absolute jerf-off, / just to keep the masses entertained. / This goes out to learning from the mistakes of others."

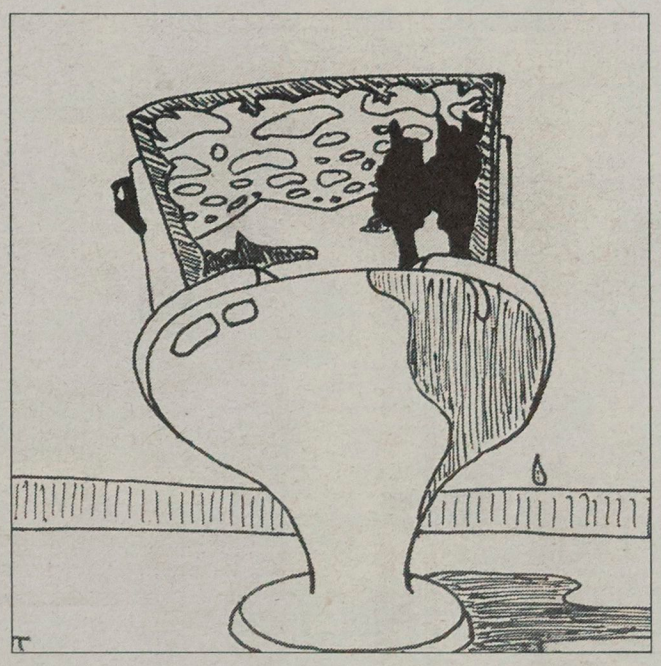
# is it art?

## A LOOK AT THOSE WHO DARE TO STRETCH THE CREATIVE LIMITS

Now that's crap! I'm not being an obnoxious art critic. It really is crap. Call it whatever you'd like — dung, droppings or fecal matter. Somehow, poop has become a medium and inspiration for an unbelievable number of artists. I use the word "unbelievable" because I'm shocked that such a thing could influence anybody. Animal waste is actually used in paintings, drawings and, wait, even sculptures. Yes, I did say sculptures. People actually pick up crap. Ekkk!

America got its first glimpse of poop when Chris Ofili's "Holy Virgin Mary" was displayed in the Brooklyn Museum of Art, in New York in 1999. Do you remember the Virgin Mary slung with elephant dung? At first glance Ofili's work seemed like an abstraction of a pre-Renaissance, stylized black Madonna, set off against a golden background. But a closer inspection revealed a clump of elephant dung at her right breast. Two more clumps, labeled "virgin" and "Mary," served as supports for the painting. (Yes, it smelled.) The highly controversial piece and exhibition stirred up a lot of discussion about modern art, the validity of the medium itself and the desecration of the Virgin Mary.

This was not his only work incorporating huge clumps of dung. The titles of some of Ofili's other pieces speak for themselves, such as "Bag of Shit" and "Shithead." In fact, he often uses elephant dung to prop up his paintings in shows. Ofili is quoted on Salon.com as saying, "Somehow it makes the painting feel more relaxed, instead of being pinned upon the wall like it's being crucified ... [The painting can] stand in its own shit and watch the other paintings being crucified on the wall." Nasty! However, Ofili's work falls within the broad realm of risqué modern art.



Another artist maintains a small photography gallery, The Fecal Art Gallery: Cody's Patio Art. This creative young man takes pride in molding his canine Cody's fecal matter. He admits that his artwork lacks maturity and dynamism but maintains that their forms are undeniably eye-catching.

Imagine the conversation that ensues when fellow artists ask, "What medium are you working?" The response: "Oh, you know, dog poop."

In 2003, American artist Mark Caywood created a mixed media sculpture entitled "Poop Christ." He wedged a crucifix into a pile of hardened elephant dung and pasted it there with Elmer's glue. Luckily he included a Glade Indoor Air freshener to suppress the odor.

Feeling a little envious you don't have some fecal art in your personal collection? Mexico natives Steven Ball and Daniel Quist use monkey feces to compose clients' portraits. They take a picture, make a mold and then apply the raw materials into it while it is still warm and fresh. It is then allowed to cool for several days to ensure rigidity required to make it last for a lifetime. To guarantee the high quality of their fecal portraits, they feed their monkeys only the finest foods so as to produce immaculate results.

While sculpting feces is probably one of the most repulsive activities, feces has also become the theme of short stories, the bright idea behind websites and butt of many jokes. One of the most prolific literature sites is poopreport.com. It goes by the slogan "Your #1 Source for Your #2 Business."

— CHRIS GROSSO, ARTS EDITOR

# LITERARY PICKS

BY EDWARD PICKERING

**TITLE**
OSCAR AND LUCINDA
**AUTHOR**
PETER CAREY
**PUBLICATION DATE**
1988

Peter Carey, one of Australia's leading novelists, has twice won the prestigious Man Booker Prize, in 1988 for "Oscar and Lucinda" and in 2001 for "True History of the Kelly Gang." Last week's novel, "Moon Tiger" by Penelope Lively, was also a Man Booker Prize winner (1987). In the coming weeks this column will take a look back at some of the Prize's most notable past winners. First established in 1969, the Man Booker Prize recognizes the best novel written by a citizen of the Commonwealth or the Republic of Ireland. The prize is considered controversial by many the awards show — a made-for-TV spectacle — is aired by the BBC, prizewinning novelists reap massive monatery benefits and critics decry every aspect of the judging process.

Carey's 1988 winner, "Oscar and Lucinda," is a sprawling, Dickensian novel set in Victorian England and colonial Australia. The novel's eponymous protagonists, Oscar and Lucinda, grow up in England and Australia, respectively. Oscar, son of a Puritanical preacher, bears the mark of religious fanaticism for the duration of his life. Lucinda, raised on an outback homestead, inherits a large sum of money from her parents and enters into Sydney society heedless of its mores and social codes. In a shocking act of apostasy Oscar attends Oriel College, Oxford, where he takes orders as an Anglican minister. Indulging a childhood fantasy, Lucinda purchases a glass-making factory. Oscar and Lucinda, separated by oceans, share a passion for gambling.

The novel moves from Victorian England to Colonial Australia. Carey writes in style that may only be compared to that of Dickens, the preeminent Victorian novelist, who fashioned his characters from heaps of detail. Carey does the same: he constructs a small world of characters, telling us the most trivial information about them. One needn't read between the lines in a Carey novel, for he hardly lets the lines breath, so choked are they by description. In this respect Carey diverges from many present day novelists, who valorize notions of narrative economy and restraint. Carey writes exuberantly, passionately.

"Oscar and Lucinda" is a lengthy novel with a bizarre plot. The two title characters unite in Australia and concoct a bizarre scheme to construct a glass church and transport it through untracked bush to an isolated parish. Carey's novel will most appeal to readers curious about Australia's literary tradition in the 20th century. As a rollicking adventure, or gripping read, "Oscar and Lucinda" might fall short, though. Ultimately, the characters prove a little too strange, the plot a little too outlandish.

# Dance troupe shakes the terrain in style

By Zoey Burrows
*Staff Writer*

On Friday, Feb. 20, the Dance Company of Middlebury staged a passionate performance in the Center for the Arts Dance Theatre, entertaining its audience with a range of dance styles. Though most of the pieces were fairly abstract and sometimes difficult for the average viewer to appreciate, every movement and expression was performed fervidly and effortlessly, attesting to the quality of these young dancers.

In order to provide an advanced level of work for Middlebury's serious dance students, the Dance Company's format varies each year depending on the student and teacher interest. This year the seven-member group is under the direction of Professor of Dance Andrea Olsen and consists of dancers Julia Basso '04, Kate Elias '06, Hannah Giles '06, Colin Penley '05.5, Jenelle Slavin '04, Ellen Smith '05 and Kate Stamper '04.5.

The group also boasts a number of guest dancers, most notably Falani Kalolo, on grant from New Zealand. Other guests included seniors Ben Brouwer and Morgan Jones, sophomore Hannah Reiman, and first-years Sarah Granstrom, Sharyn Korey and Louisa Irving. The evening's program consisted of a repertory of dances by five professional choreographers and one student, with each dancer attempting to embody the unique style intended by the choreographer — not always an easy feat.

By far, the highlight of the evening was Terese Freedman and Jim Coleman's piece "do run run." A colorful and energetic piece with fun contemporary music such as Ben King's "Stand By Me" and The Marcels' "Blue Moon," it was entertaining to watch for its fast movements and quirky interactions between dancers, such as, for example, when they carried each other onto the dance floor like immobile wooden dolls. It was also fun for all the boy-girl tension as Jones danced in pursuit of the girls who consistently evaded him and tossed him out of the way.

**Throughout the erratic dance, Brouwer employed animal-like movements to express the occasionally eerie music.**

Another strong piece entitled "My Mother's Violin," choreographed by Olsen, launched the performance with verve and variety, a long piece consisting of three separate movements. In the first rather stark scene, Stamper and fiddler Caleb Elder '04 played off of each other using the violin notes, space and an assortment of chairs at the back of the hall. As the music changed, Stamper became progressively more violent in her movement, throwing herself to the ground and contorting her body in unnatural ways.

Courtesy

**Andrea Olsen translated her Fulbright experiences in New Zealand into passionate movement in "Terrain."**

The second scene with Elias and Kalolo, was light and playful in contrast to the first. The dancers seemed to be playing cat and mouse, chasing each other from chair to chair and boomeranging off each other's backs. In the final scene, Slavin half-danced, half-crawled across the stage in a quirky style that made some audience members uncomfortable for its oddness.

The second piece, "Do You Expect Me to Believe That?," was choreographed by internationally renowned teacher and performer Peter Schmitz. An intentionally awkward piece, dancers Basso, Giles and Penley danced with impressive authenticity, touching and retreating from each other like nymphs in escape of a persistent suitor.

"Rock Steady," choreographed by award-winning Middlebury graduate Paul Matteson '00 and performed by Middlebury Artist-in-Residence Amy Chavasse proved to be the epitome of dance and words combined. Chavasse's strong voice and evocative dancing told a moving story about life, love and indecision.

After intermission, Chavasse's own provocative piece, "I Will Spare You," presented two female pairs dancing closely with one another, so closely that they seemed attached at moments. It featured an original score by Middlebury Director of Dance Michael Chorney, based on the distinctive "bonk" of the endangered Costa Rican bellbird. Sounds of crickets, trains, violins and wind also wended their way into his music.

Brouwer was the only student choreographer represented in the program, performing solo in his piece entitled "First Flights." Set to modern composer Benjamin Britten's Third Cello Suite, Brouwer first appeared in a frog's crouching position, slowly unfolding himself in Gollum-like fashion. Throughout the erratic dance, Brouwer employed animal-like movements to express the occasionally eerie music. The final performance of the evening, "As You Are," choreographed by Matteson was a strong piece involving all seven Company members as well as Sharyn Korey.

This weekend the Dance Company will be participating in the New England division of the American College Dance Festival at Smith College in Northampton, Mass. In addition to this, Kalolo is teaching Dance Pacifica, a class consisting of Maori (New Zealand), Samoan and Cook Island dance forms on Monday evenings. Students of this class will perform on April 12.

The Dance Company is a small but powerful group, with six of its seven members currently boasting dance majors. The performance helped remind some disillusioned Middlebury students that there *is* music and dance abounding on campus — it is merely a matter of finding it.

# Duo strikes incisive chord

By Kelsey Smith
*Staff Writer*

Katherine Winterstein, member of the applied faculty at Middlebury College, and Inessa Zaretsky, member of the faculty of Mannes College of Music in New York City, performed works by Mozart, Beethoven and Prokofiev on Sunday, Feb. 22.

Winterstein is currently the concertmaster of the Vermont Symphony and has collaborated with such well-known violinists as Ida Kavafian. Zaretsky is a talented composer as well as a pianist — her works have been well received nationally and abroad. The program featured one of her compositions, a five movement piece entitled "Dream Dance Suite."

The concert began with Beethoven's "Sonata in c minor, opus 30 number 2," a four-movement piece that vacillated between featuring the piano and featuring the violin. Winterstein and Zaretsky complemented each other nicely — when the violin was featured the piano often provided a background of blending scales. Zaretsky's composition added a contemporary edge to the program. Before sitting down to the piano, she informed the audience that with the fifth and final movement she sought to revisit the melodic themes found in each of the preceding movements in reverse order.

The unusual rhythms and demanding nature of the third and fourth movements especially invited parallels between Zaretsky's composition and the nearly impossible Paganini Caprices for solo violin. Winterstein handled the challenge expertly, from the opening dissonant phrases of the first movement to the harmonic passages of the fifth. A short intermission was followed by Mozart's "Sonata in e minor." The composer's mother suffered her last illness and death in Paris around the time of the composition of this two-movement piece, consisting of an Allegro and a Tempo di Menuetto.

**Winterstein and Zaretsky succeeded in conveying the emotion found in the many contrasts in tempo and dynamics.**

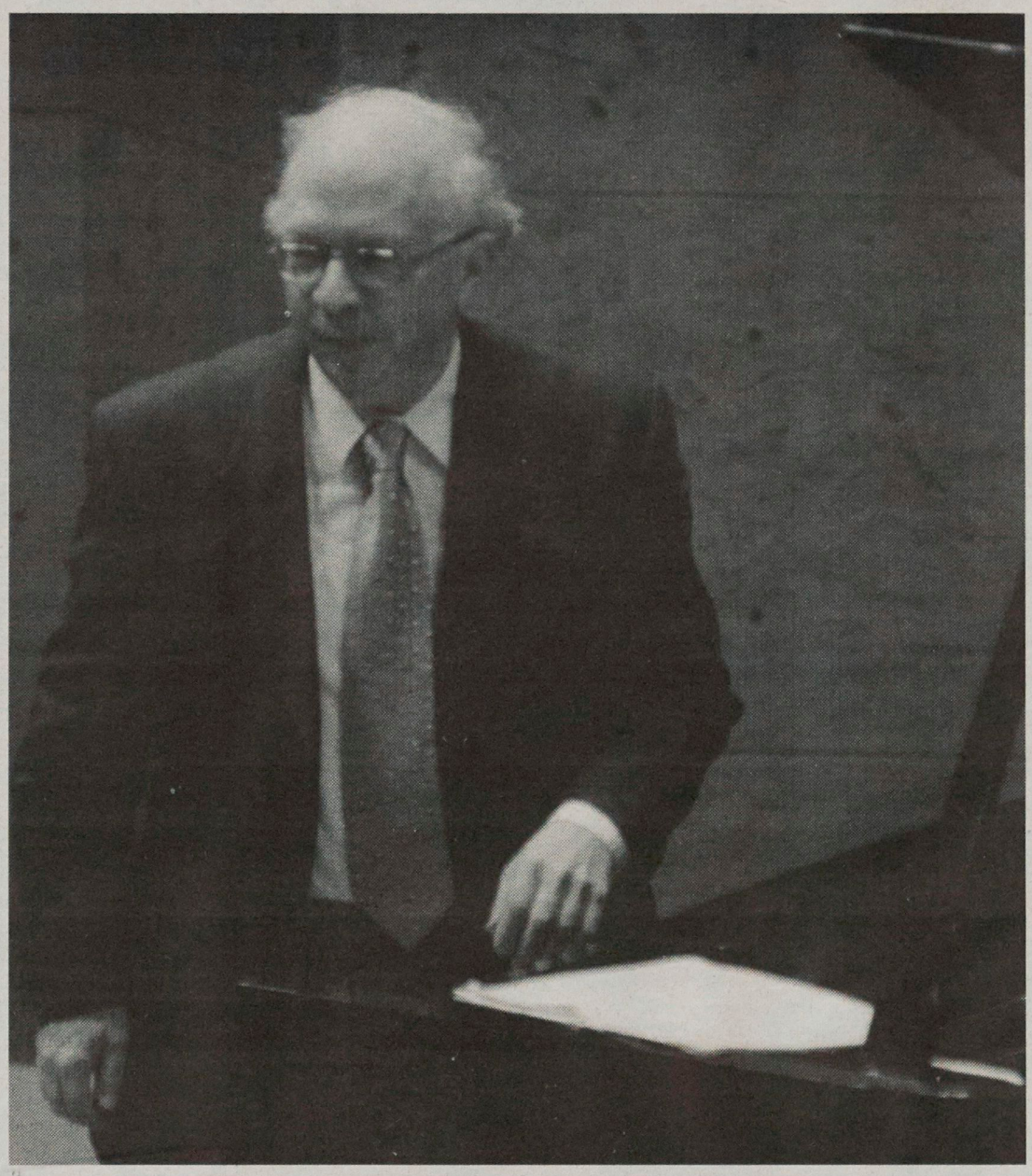
Winterstein and Zaretsky succeeded in conveying the emotion found in the many contrasts in tempo and dynamics. The stark octaves of the opening and the syncopated passages conveyed a sense of urgency and unrest — this feeling was interrupted only briefly by the more peaceful and bright minuet with the major key of the trio, but agitation returned for the close.

The concert closed with a somber rendition of Prokofiev's especially demanding "Sonata number 1 in f minor." The overall darkness of the piece was periodically interrupted by bouts of energy — however, the work closed with the same permeating sense of mystery that was found in the first movement. Winterstein and Zaretsky both excelled in mastering the different types of fluidity required for the rapid and melodic passages respectively.

Albert Bitici

**Katherine Winterstein hones the violin with her solid performance.**

## SACHS TAKES THE STAGE



Vlad Loadaba

**Pianist Joel Sachs serenaded the Middlebury College community on Friday, Feb. 20 at the CFA Concert Hall. He played John Cage's Sonatas and Interludes, a rare performance of his 1948 masterpieces for prepared piano.**

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# Women's basketball falls at first NESCAC hurdle

By Tom McCann
*Sports Editor*

The women's basketball season came to an end last weekend following a 66-53 loss to Wesleyan University. The defeat ends the Panthers' season with a record of 11-12, although they didn't go down easily to their second-seeded opponents.

**Women's Basketball**
Saturday, February 22

| | |
|---|---|
| Middlebury | 53 |
| Wesleyan | 66 |

The game began with the Panthers as the significant underdog, partly due to their inferior NESCAC seeding, but also due to the fact that just 15 days prior, Wesleyan had routed the Panthers by 23 points. Any fears that their opposition would intimidate the Middlebury women were banished when the Panthers came out shooting the ball far better than their hosts. In fact, the Panthers even took a slender lead into the half-time interval, nosing ahead by a score of 29-28. In a tight first half, Middlebury shot 10 for 25 and three for seven from behind the three-point line for an average of 40 percent, compared to 36.7 percent from Wesleyan.

Middlebury could not maintain its high level of play and allowed Wesleyan to come back in the second half. In truth, it was a wonderful second-half performance from Wesleyan as it shot the ball over 56 percent from the field during the second half. As the game came down the stretch, Wesleyan was too strong for Middlebury and was able to eke out the win.

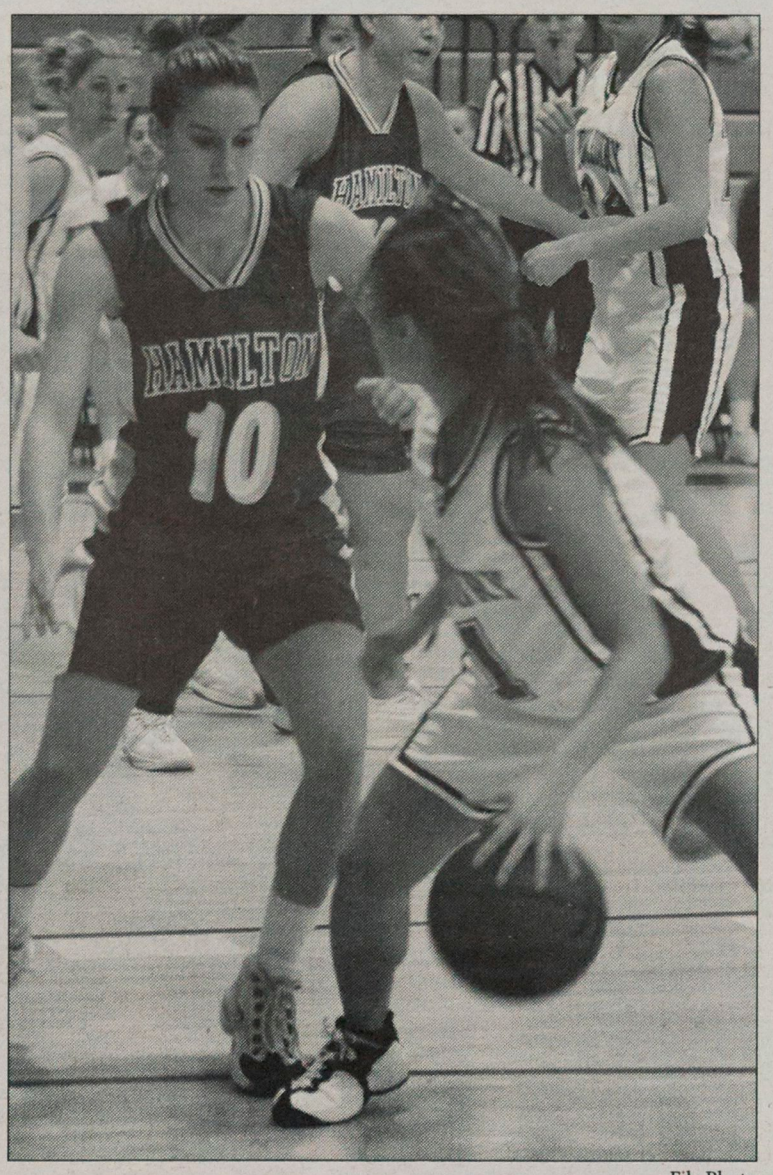
While the Wesleyan women were able to dish out 16 assists, turning the ball over 16 times, the Panthers shot themselves in the foot throughout the game, turning the ball over 20 times, offset by just 11 assists.

Despite this, Erica Goodman '06 noted, "It was probably one of our best games of the season, although as happened so many times, it wasn't totally reflected in the box score."

Elyse Carlson '05 led the Panthers in scoring on the day, bagging a game-high 21 points, shooting six for 14 from the floor and five for nine from behind the arc. The only other Middlebury player to score in double figures was the efficient Alexis Hollinger '05 who nailed all five of her shots from the field, on her way to 10 points. Michaela McVary '06 and Kate Schillo '04 both had significant contributions from the bench, with McVary scoring nine points and Schillo grabbing 11 rebounds.

Schillo, along with Alexis Batten '04 are the only two members of the squad who will be graduating this year, leaving the Panthers with an extremely experienced team returning next year for another push at postseason success. With four out of the five starters coming back for another season, coupled with several other players such as McVary and Goodman sure to step up to more senior roles, the team can only be optimistic of success next year.

Goodman commented, "Next season it would be nice to advance in the playoffs and play up to our true potential. We shuffled positions around quite a bit this year, and there's a lot more to come from this team." Through a tough seasons of ups and downs, the Middlebury women's basketball team has competed admirably.



File Photo
**Maryanne Verzosa '06 and the Panthers were denied in NESCAC play.**

# Men's hockey outbattles Knights and Cadets

Continued from page 28

down and readied themselves for a battle. In front of a record crowd of 2,600, the Panthers dominated in an irrefutable win over the then-number one team in the country. With the familiar strains of "Cheer boys cheer, for Middlebury cheer... " ringing, the Panther momentum grew and refused to be stifled as Kenyon Arena grew raucous and ready for victory.

For the seniors, it was their final regular season home game, and two of them left after a truly memorable performance. Kevin Cooper and Marc Scheuer dominated their respective positions throughout the contest and propelled the Panthers to victory.

"It was a great game and I would rate it up there as one of the top games of my career," said Cooper after notching a hat trick as well as an assist in Saturday's win. By picking apart the Cadet defense, Cooper earned NESCAC Player of the Week honors and moved atop the NESCAC points chart (42).

It didn't take long for Cooper to get the bonanza underway. Adam Foote '04 won the opening face off, which sent Cooper streaking into the Norwich zone. After an amazing deke, the senior forward softly tapped the puck home only six seconds into the game. This was a sign of things to come.

Scheuer was phenomenal in the net, thwarting 19 solid Cadet attempts. When asked to talk about the game, Scheuer was modest and commented on how happy he was to get the opportunity to play.

"Getting the chance to compete against Norwich was a great thing for me," he said. "Having my family there and it being Senior Night only added to my level of play."

With a goals-against average of 1.49, Scheuer has been on a hot streak lately. "I'm not letting the little things bother me anymore," Scheuer continued, "and I have been focusing on just playing hockey." With this senior duo and the rest of the Panthers firing on all cylinders, it will be difficult for any team to overtake this Middlebury hockey juggernaut.

With this weekend's NESCAC tourney opening up on the Panthers' home ice, Scheuer commented that, "there is a lot of confidence in the dressing room right now." The Panthers will face Tufts this weekend in the opening round of play. The previous meeting of these two teams was a 12-2 road victory for Middlebury.

Cooper noted, "We will have to be mentally prepared and continue to play a full 60 minutes of hockey." With the NESCAC title within reach, loftier goals lie far off on the horizon. Cooper and Scheuer both commented on how they are hoping to compete and make a strong showing in the NCAA tournament. Cooper said, "When it comes to team goals, winning the National Championship is the only thing on the minds of this team."

Kathrin Schwesinger
**The combination of Adam Foote '04 (number 20) and Kevin Cooper '04 (11) smother a Norwich attacker in Saturday afternoon's action in Kenyon Arena. The Panther squad proved to be too much for in their in-state rivals. By defeating St. Michael's and Norwich, Middlebury locked up top billing and home ice in this weekend's NESCAC tournament. The Panthers will play host to the Jumbos from Tufts on Saturday to get tournament action underway.**

# Men's basketball grinds to a halt

## Top-ranked Ephs too much for Anderson-less Panthers

By Dan Russell
*Staff Writer*

The Middlebury College men's basketball team traveled to Williamstown, Mass., this weekend to compete in the quarterfinals of the NESCAC tournament. The Panthers entered the tournament as the eighth and final seed, competing against Williams College, the number one-ranked team in Division III.

Despite shooting only 25 percent in the first half (28 percent for the game), and being out-rebounded 53-28, the Panthers hung with the Ephs and kept the game within reach. They trailed by only 10 at halftime and stayed within 15 points of Williams the entire game, until a late Ephs run put the game out of reach, with the Panthers eventually falling 74-52.

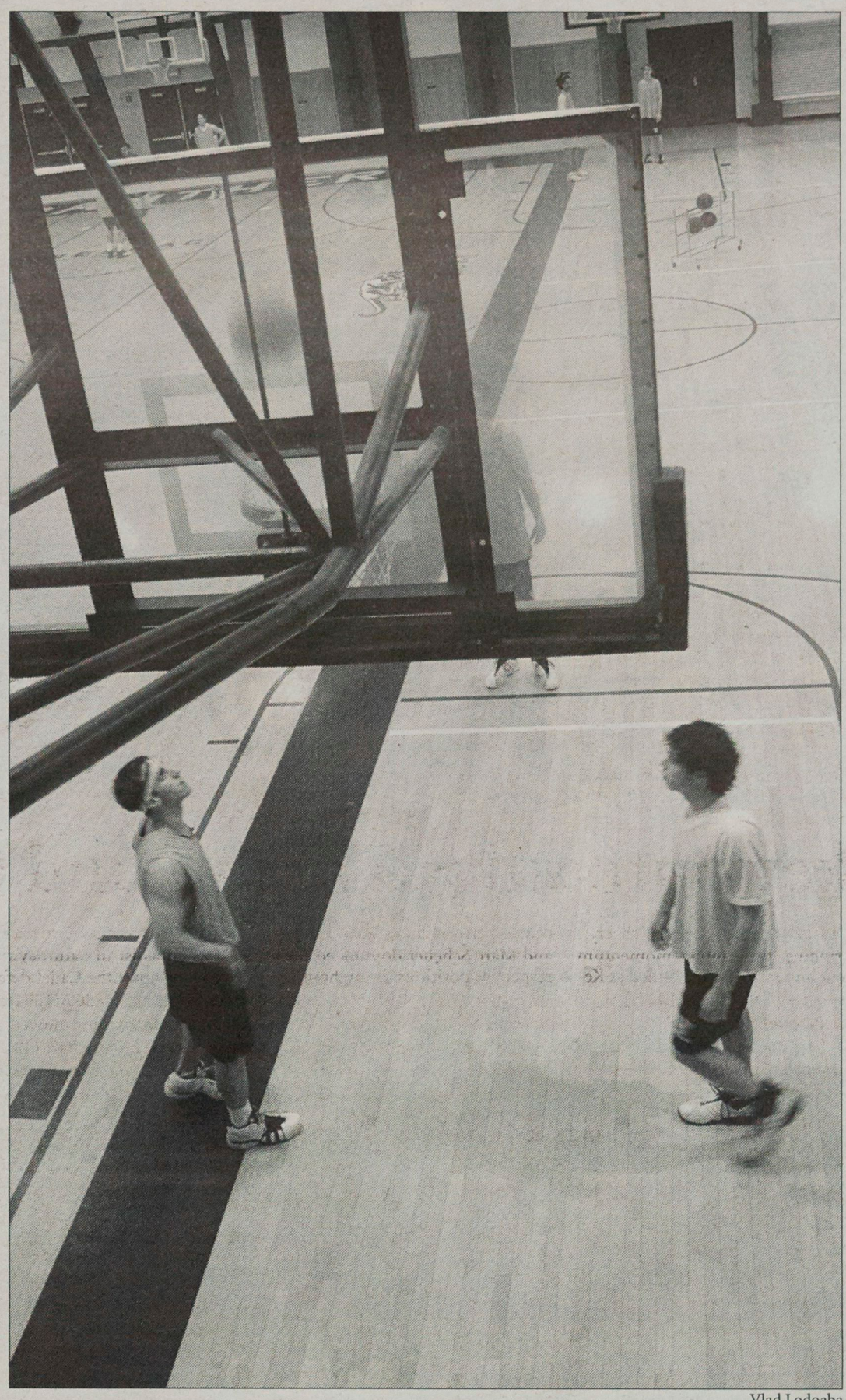
Simon Behan '05 and Bobby Marcoux '07, each with 10 points, paced Middlebury, which was without leading scorer Nate Anderson '04. The Panthers end their season with a 12-12 record.

Mike Salek '05, commenting on the Williams game, said, "We hung in there and I thought the game was always within reach. Our overall shooting percentage was a big factor. We shot poorly on their home floor."

It was a disappointing end to what has been a frustrating season for the senior-laden Panther team. The Panthers went into the season with high expectations, having grown from an inexperienced team of underclassmen to a battle-tested unit composed of six seniors and five juniors who had played regular minutes together since their sophomore and first years.

It was a season that was meant to be the culmination of their efforts as a team and a reward for three years of hard work and building together as a team ended in heartbreak. The Panthers stumbled in the middle of the season, falling in NESCAC play to the three top teams in their division and were never able to recover their poise and confidence. Disappointing losses to Skidmore and Union as well as only two wins in the NESCAC offset quality wins against Plattsburgh State and Hamilton College early in the season.

While the Panthers will suffer in terms of depth, leadership and experience, they will return five players who have played significant minutes since the beginnings of their careers. "We had some tough stretches this year." Clark Reid '05 said. "We're losing a good group of seniors, but we've got a core group of guys coming back. Our main goal next year is to improve on our record, tie up the loose ends and put together good games for 40 minutes."



Vlad Lodoaba

**John Donnelly '04 and Steve Vento '05 look on as another team member practices free throws. The Panther men suffered a season-ending defeat at the hands of Williams last weekend.**

# Women's squash brings home prestige

## Team caps off its season with a sweep of victories

By Sally Hartman
*Staff Writer*

All good things must come to an end, and for the women's squash team, the end came this weekend at Yale University where the Panthers competed against Connecticut College, Tufts University and Wellesley College to win the prestigious Walker Cup. The award is a sub-division of the Howe Cup, the most coveted title in national collegiate squash.

### Women's Squash

| Saturday, February 22 | |
|---|---|
| Middlebury | 7 |
| Connecticut College | 2 |
| **Saturday, February 22** | |
| Middlebury | 8 |
| Tufts | 1 |
| **Saturday, February 22** | |
| Middlebury | 8 |
| Wellesley | 1 |

After proving themselves a formidable enemy all season long, the Panthers faced a test of wills in the season's closing tournament. Most recently, Coach Seward's team came off a tough loss to Vassar in the squad's first home match in years. However, they were able to regroup and close the season with an impressive record of 10-5.

Even more remarkable than the season record was the exhibition the women put on this weekend against some of their toughest NESCAC rivals. Middlebury did not merely squeeze by its opponents to edge closer to capturing the hardware that it so rightly deserved. It did so in stunning fashion by a margin of at least five matches on each of the three days of the tournament. In addition, only four of the 27 matches slipped between their capable hands. Perhaps this was an elaborate strategy to keep the opposing squads from losing all hope. However, soon after the weekend had begun, it became clear that the Panthers were on the prowl.

First-year Hannah Baker and junior Holly Haertel, seeded numbers one and two, respectively, led the charge by refusing to give up any of their nine matches matches during the three-day competition. Joining them with undefeated weekend records as well were seniors Liza Franyo and Britt Cosgrove, junior Lauren Smith and sophomore Caitlin Flint. Juniors Beth Seeley and Kea Anstey both dropped one while senior Amanda Knappman finished 1-2.

On Friday Middlebury faced Connecticut College in what would be the first victory in a dazzling spectacle of total domination. Seven of the nine players put away their opponents in three-game shutouts. The following day, Tufts was only able to snag one match from Middlebury's ever-tightening grasp. On Sunday, it all came crashing down on the Panthers' final victim, Wellesley, who also suffered an 8-1 loss.

With a combination of such dominance, skill and perseverance, the Panthers easily sailed to the top of the podium and gracefully accepted the hardware to cap off an outstanding season. Having won 10 of the 15 matches played this season, the women's squash team has set a concrete precedent that will no doubt serve as inspiration for years to come.

# ANGRYPETER

BY PETER YORDAN

Well, look what happens. I write an article lambasting the lackluster crowds at hockey games this year, and two days later the rink is so jam-packed for Saturday's Norwich game that the goons at the door wouldn't even let me in to see it. Either I'm incredibly influential or I don't have a clue as to what I'm talking about. Hopefully we can get more big crowds for this weekend's NESCAC games. Hopefully, I can get in the door this time.

And hey, how about checking out the women's hockey game too? Is there anything more embarrassing than the pathetic student turnout at women's games? Isn't this the program that didn't lose a game for seven years?

In any case, I don't feel like ranting for an entire column this week. Getting shut out of the hockey game gave me a few idle hours on Saturday, giving me time to make plans to go skitching the next day. "Skitching", as the obnoxious Mountain Club-type name implies, is a contraction of "ski hitching." This hazardous cousin of water skiing involves driving down a snow-covered road at over 25 miles per hour while towing a person strapped into his or her crappiest pair of rock skis. Very little imagination is needed to think of the many dangers inherent in this rather depraved hybrid sport — the funniest of which would have to be the driver stopping too quickly, causing his buddy to slam into the car's trunk.

Luckily for this column, reason did not prevail, and bright and early Sunday morning I found myself in a car with two friends bounding down the highway toward an undisclosed backcountry road. Upon our arrival we noted that the road had, in fact, been plowed recently, leaving only a thin veneer of new fallen snow to cover the pavement. Undeterred, we strapped on a towline and went over hand signals, deciding that if the cover was too thin, at least the sparks from our skis would be cool.

After a quick prayer and a few last words recorded onto videotape, we strapped in our friend and were off. Teeth clenched tightly, our victim tried to avoid becoming the first Middlebury winner of a Darwin award as the rope jerked him forward. Soon enough, however, he fell into a rather comfortable rhythm, turning this way and that with only a couple mishaps and scrapes. My next friend was even bolder, trying to execute a big jump using the curb to propel him upward. At the end of the day the skitching had succeeded without any incident. It proved to be quite an excellent morning, the kind that only serves to reinforce a young man's sense of invulnerability. Hockey games are great, but I would assume that for most Middlebury students who are casual athletes at best, the sporting events they will remember most from their years here won't be NESCAC playoffs, but rather activities like skitching with friends. Get on out there. There won't be any goons to lock you out.

# Defending their turf

## Lacrosse's tri-captains form the base of a senior class laden with talent

By David Freedman
*Sports Editor*

Greg Bastis '04, John West '04 and Eric Krieger '04 (left to right) are poised and excited for their last season in Panther uniforms. This year's seniors have garnered a 52-4 record in their careers, carrying on a Middlebury tradition of dominant lacrosse.

Photo by Vlad Lodoaba

In the depths of M&T Bank Stadium, the home of the Baltimore Ravens, Greg Bastis '04 stood defiantly in an unusually quiet locker room. Middlebury's men's lacrosse team had good reason to feel uneasy. Down 10-4 at halftime of the 2003 NCAA Division III National Championship game to top seed Salisbury State University, with 15,000 fans looking on, no one knew what to say, except for the senior midfielder out of Old Greenwich, Conn.

"Pack it in!" Will Rawson '05 remembered Bastis saying with excitement. "We have one chance to show people we belong here, one chance to prove how good we really are."

"Those words stuck with me, stuck with us all," Travis Meyer '06 said. "You've got to rally behind a guy who can stay positive down six goals."

It took Bastis 13 seconds into the second half to prove he believed his words by rifling home an unassisted goal. Almost a minute later Mike Saraceni '04 notched his first score of the title game off a feed from Ben Tobey '04.

With a 7-1 run in the second half, consisting of absurd point-blank saves from goalie Eric Krieger '04 and outstanding close-stick defense from John West '04, Ed Brown '05 and Caleb Holmes '03 that culminated in Charley Howe '04 giving the team its first lead with six minutes remaining, the Panthers were in a position that was unfathomable only moments before.

"I'm not sure if I even thought that we could come out and win the game," Bastis said, "but we needed to play like we were going to. I think everybody fed off of each other, and we came out with the best half that we'd played all year."

The effort was more than admirable, but the victory could not be secured as the men eventually lost a heartbreaker in overtime.

Yet the positive attitude and the confident swagger the Panthers brought to the field after halftime is exemplary of the lacrosse program under the tutelage of Head Coach Erin Quinn. "We expect to win," Rawson explained, "but we don't define ourselves or our success by our record."

Now that an offseason full of motivation from that championship match has come to a close, Quinn and the Panthers are poised to build on last year's somewhat unexpected run.

**We expect to win, but we don't define ourselves or our success by our record.**

**— Will Rawson '05**

Despite the fact that the lacross team had lost four STX/USILA (United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association) first-team all-Americans and a lot of leadership after the 2002 campaign, it will be on other teams' radar this season, mainly because of the senior class's quality and depth. The 12-man group has amassed a 52-4 record in three seasons, has only one postseason loss in three years and has won three NESCAC Championships.

Headlining the senior class are some of the squad's most athletic players, tri-captains Bastis, West and Krieger, elected by their 41 peers. Quinn is quick to commend this year's captains for their abilities and achievements, but points out, "We could have had six captains with the balance of talent in this class."

Then Quinn smiled, "But what this year's captains have goes beyond all-American teams or championships won, they are just pure leaders," he said.

Earning solid minutes in his first two seasons Bastis "really came into his own last year," Quinn remarked. A 2003 honorable mention for All-American status, Bastis went from the 12th leading scorer on the team in 2002 to the team's third-most productive threat, with 28 goals and 4 assists.

He has emerged as Middlebury's most athletic player, playing both sides of the field with speed and strength. Bastis has put the Salisbury loss behind him, and will not let it dampen the upcoming season.

"Of course we want to get back to a position in which we can win a championship, but that will only happen if we take every opponent on as if they are the best team we'll play all year," Bastis stated. "We've been so successful in the past because of that attitude."

West shares Bastis' drive, and is eager to get back on the turf, but he will have to wait a little to rejoin his teammates on the practice field to let two slipped discs in his back get some rest.

Productive in most every game in his first three seasons, West is a returning first-team all-American for defense after a breakout year in his first season as a starter and has been slated by Face-Off Yearbook's Division III preseason all-American awards to win that honor again.

With three years of lacrosse under his belt, West has filled into his 6'5" frame with enough power to thwart attackers, but without losing any of his uncanny quickness and speed.

**It's the things we do day to day that are the most important for us — the things you remember more than a 60-minute game.**

**— Head Coach Erin Quinn**

His athleticism has made him one of Middlebury's most dangerous weapons in transition. Once he gets the ball in his stick there are few players in the country who can catch him.

West shares his teammates' modesty, deflecting credit to the guys around him. "Our defense is so athletic and deep that I don't have to do anything outside my game," West said. "I have the best one-versus-one defender in the country in Ed Brown and have a four-year starter in net playing behind me."

Referring to Krieger, West was quick to point out how important he is to the team. "I can't tell you how much it helps to have someone as dependable as him back there."

In his first three seasons at Middlebury, Krieger has climbed up to third all-time for most saves in a career and goals allowed average, while earning the fifth highest save percentage.

"We've been able to replace one great goalie with another," Quinn said. "He's right there with the best ones we've had." Earning third-team all-American honors as a junior, he is predicted to be a second-team performer this season.

Krieger has only dropped four games in his illustrious career and earned the team's Most Valuable Player award at the close of last year. When asked if he felt any pressure anchoring the defense, Krieger responded, "Defensively, our team has only gotten better over the past three years, so it's hard to feel pressure when you have great athletes with a good sense of the game protecting you."

The captains are not the only seniors making noise in preseason magazines and on lacrosse websites. "We return a lot of starters at all positions and are going to have a lot of depth," Krieger affirmed. "If we can keep improving from where we were last year, there's no question we can get better." The line of attackmen could be an all-senior group, headed by preseason first-team All-American Saraceni, the team's leading goal scorer in Howe and an emerging contributor in Tobey. Andrew Giordano '04, who netted two goals in the Salisbury loss, and Tom O'Connor '04 will also bring plenty to the table in the Panther midfield.

"The guys know that we're good enough to compete for regular-season titles and championships," Quinn said. "But it's the things we do day to day that are the most important for us — the things you remember more than a 60-minute game."

This group of captains, this senior class, are the first to attest to that.

# Panthers play heads-up hockey

## Coin-toss loss cannot dampen women's spirits

By Mike Kennedy
*Staff Writer*

The Middlebury women's hockey team capped off the regular season with a 3-2 victory over Williams College last Saturday night at the Kenyon Arena. The win tied the Panthers with Bowdoin College for the regular season NESCAC crown, as both teams have identical 15-1 records in league play.

Because the teams split the season series, and the rest of the tie-breakers are even, the number one seed in the tournament was decided by a coin toss, which was won by the Polar Bears. Bowdoin therefore drew a first-round bye and gained the right to host the NESCAC semi-finals and finals March 6 and 7. The Panthers are forced to play a quarterfinal game against seventh seeded Connecticut College in Middlebury this weekend.

Saturday's game against Williams marked the last regular season home game for this year's five seniors. Over its four years, the class, which includes Kristen Reid, Molly Turco, Kati Madouros, Heather Wende and Jean Butler, has won one NESCAC championship, one ECAC championship, and one Division III national title, in 2001. The women were honored in a ceremony before the opening face-off.

The opening period was played fairly evenly, and it was not until a minute before the end that Middlebury got on the scoreboard. Sophomore speedster Emily Quizon found the back of the net for her 13th goal of the season, with Butler and Lorna Gifis '05 getting credit for the assists. The lead increased to two midway through the second period, as the ever-steady Gifis struck for the Panthers, netting her team-leading 20th of the season. The Ephs would cut the lead in half before the end of the period.

In the third, Gifis once again gave the Panthers a two-goal cushion after slamming home a rebound early in the period, but the Ephs answered back just 19 seconds later to make it 3-2. Williams pulled its goalie in the last two minutes to gain an extra skater, but Madouros and the Panther defense held off the attack and preserved the victory. Madouros made 23 saves in all on the night, as she improved to 10-2 on the season.

Having now won thirteen straight games against Division III opponents, including two wins against current national number-one Plattsburgh and one against co-regular season NESCAC champ Bowdoin, the Panthers are in a groove heading into the playoffs this weekend. They are understandably disappointed to not be hosting the NESCAC finals, but are still confident in their ability to win it, especially after winning it in Maine last year.

"Obviously, we would have been psyched to host the NESCACs, but we did everything we could for that to happen, and now we just have to forget about it and play. It starts this weekend against Conn College, and that's the team that is on our minds," commented Butler.

The teams will face off Saturday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. in Kenyon Arena.

Albert Bitici

**Emily Quizon '06 finds the back of the net during Middlebury's weekend action against Williams.**

# Skiers clinch four out of five

Continued from page 28

asked about the squad. "It makes a big difference when we have six guys that can be in the top 15 every week. We can risk more each run because we don't have to worry about finishing as much. It lets us push it to the next level. And the girls have the same advantage."

On the women's side, rookie Lindsey Brush '07 led the way and continued her strong first season with a fifth-place finish (1:57.47) in the GS race. Veteran Laura Scripture '04 finished only a few behind in seventh (1:58.42) and Jessica Smith '05 was right on her heels, finishing ninth (1:58.65). The second first-year on the team, Tara Martin '07 wrapped up the top 15 with her 13th place finish (1:59.36). In Slalom, the order was much the same, with Brush finishing one of her finest events in fourth place (1:47.24). Scripture followed suit, again only two places behind, in sixth (1:47.71). Martin closed out an equally strong meet finishing in the 13th place (1:48.94).

As Coriell noted, the strength of both the men's and women's alpine teams comes from the depth of both teams. The young talent is overwhelmingly powerful on the women's side, while the men are still waiting in the shadows for the most part right now. Still, the strong first-year and sophomore base of both these teams ensures that the winning trend of this year will continue for years to come.

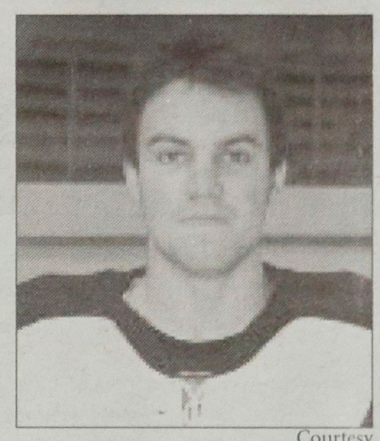
On a final note, the work of Alpine Coach Forest Carey should not be overlooked. In his first year here at Middlebury he has been nearly undefeated and has led his squad to new heights.

"Coach Forest was racing last year…beating us all," commented Coriell after the competition. "He knows so much and he can convey it to us so well. He can pick out the littlest things in out skiing, and he's just fun to be around. We are a lot more relaxed this year. It makes a big difference."

With this week's Carnival at home, expect to see both the nordic and alpine teams revved up and ready to go. Everyone on the team is excited about their chances and determined to win a Carnival here at Middlebury. "This weekend is going to be tough, teams will be gunning for us since we have won at their place. I'm a little nervous, but we're all excited too," commented Greene.

# SPORTSBRIEFS

## Cooper adds one more honor



Courtesy

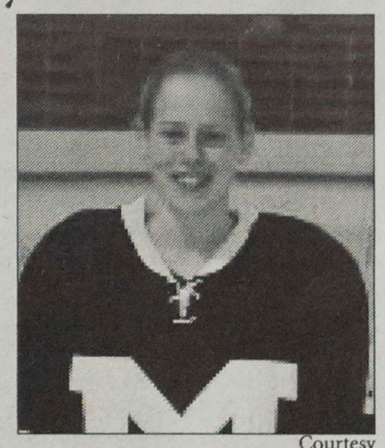
For the second time this month Kevin Cooper '04 has earned NESCAC player of the week honors, almost solely based on his hat-trick performance against top-ranked Norwich on Saturday. The senior goal scorer also gave out an assist in front of the uproarious sold-out crowd of 2,600 that commonly chanted his name after each point he put up. The raucous Norwich sections booed the senior during starting line-ups, but it did not seem to faze the Ontario native on the day. Cooper now has 91 goals for his career, upping his record-breaking tally by seven since he moved atop the books and leads the NESCAC with his 42 points recorded on the year. The next closest goal scorer in conference play is eight goals behind, and the next closest athlete in points is eight behind as well. Cooper needs only three goals to surpass Kurtis McLean of Norwich to lead Division III in scoring. — DAVID FREEDMAN, SPORTS EDITOR

## Indoor track making noise

A little more than half way through their season, the men's and women's indoor track teams have made 2004 an unqualified success. This past weekend, both teams broke several school records en route to extremely productive meets at the New England Division III indoor championships. The men's team, running at Bowdoin College, finished 11th out of 21 teams, and the women's team logged an 18th place finish out of a field of 31 at M.I.T.

At the men's meet, junior Nick Digani beat his own record, which was also the school record, in the 1,000 meters, finishing at 2:31:28, garnering a third place finish. Digani's performance earned him All-New England honors, joining teammates Kevin Bright '06 and Jon Erwin '05. Bright finished in third-place in the 400 meters in an extremely competitive field with a time of 50:57. Erwin won his honors for a seventh-place finish in the 3,000 meters. Erwin was also on the 4 x 800 team, along with sophomore Matt Horesta and first-years Chris Pelliccia and Conor O'Neil that placed fifth in the meet and broke another Middlebury mark. The distance medley relay team also set a school mark at 10:34:29, with the team Pelliccia, Horesta, Bright and Digani. The women's team was equally impressive. Seniors Jessica Kosciewicz and Maryanne Porter both broke school records, in the 55-meter and 400-meter races, with times of 7.59 and 60.19, respectively. The two seniors won All-New England honors for their efforts. Also earning honors for her running was Megan Gambino '06, who ran the race of her life in the 1,000 meters, finishing at eighthplace in an extremely tough field, at a time of 3:08:31. In the 4 x 400 relay, the team of Porter and first-year runners Beth Butler, Alice Flanders and Erin Oliver finished eighth in 4:12:88, earning All-New England accolades as well.
— JACK DONALDSON, STAFF WRITER

## Gifis named Player of the Week



Courtesy

Lorna Gifis '05, a forward from Princeton, N.J., was named women's hockey's NESCAC player of the week, the second female hockey player from Middlebury to earn the honor in February. Gifis was involved in every point scored in the Panthers pivotal victory over seventh ranked Williams College Saturday night, putting in two herself and assisting on a third. The junior also assisted on Emily Quizon's '06 last minute goal that put Middlebury atop Bowdoin 3-2 the previous Saturday. Now with 41 points on the season, Gifis has emerged as the team's leader in points and is second in the league as well. She is the only player in the conference with at least 20 goals and 20 assists and is ninth in the nation in her points per game average with 1.86. — D. F.

## Winter Carnival ski schedule

The Middlebury men's and women's alpine and nordic ski teams will be hosting the latest Carnival at the Snow Bowl on Feb. 27 and 28. The teams are looking to earn the top spot for the fifth time in six tries this year. The Panthers have never won the Carnival on their own hill and are looking to improve upon their consecutive seasons at second place. At 9:30 Friday morning the men's Slalom will commence its first run with the women immediately following to begin the alpine races at 12:30 p.m. The second run for the men will then take place and the women will immediately follow. Nordic events will begin at the Rikert Ski Touring Center at 10 a.m. the same day beginning with the men's 10K freestyle. The women will compete in the 5K freestyle shortly thereafter at 11:15 a.m. Giant Slalom races will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday with the women's first runs and then the men will take their turns. The second run will take place at 12:30 p.m. At 10 a.m. at the Rikert Center the women's 10K classic mass start will begin, and at 11:30 a.m. the men's 15K race will start. The awards ceremony will take place one hour after the conclusion of the second run at the Snow Bowl. — D. F.

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WOMEN'S SQUASH | PANTHERS BRING | 25

**GAMES TO WATCH**

**MEN'S HOCKEY**
**VS. TUFTS**
FEB. 28 | 6:30 | KENYON

**ALPINE/NORDIC SKIING**
**WINTER CARNIVAL**
FEB. 27/8 | BOWL/RIKERT

campus sports

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2004

# Men's hockey humbles Cadets

## Panthers ride Cooper's heroics to rout archrival Norwich

By Ryan Reese
*Assistant Sports Editor*

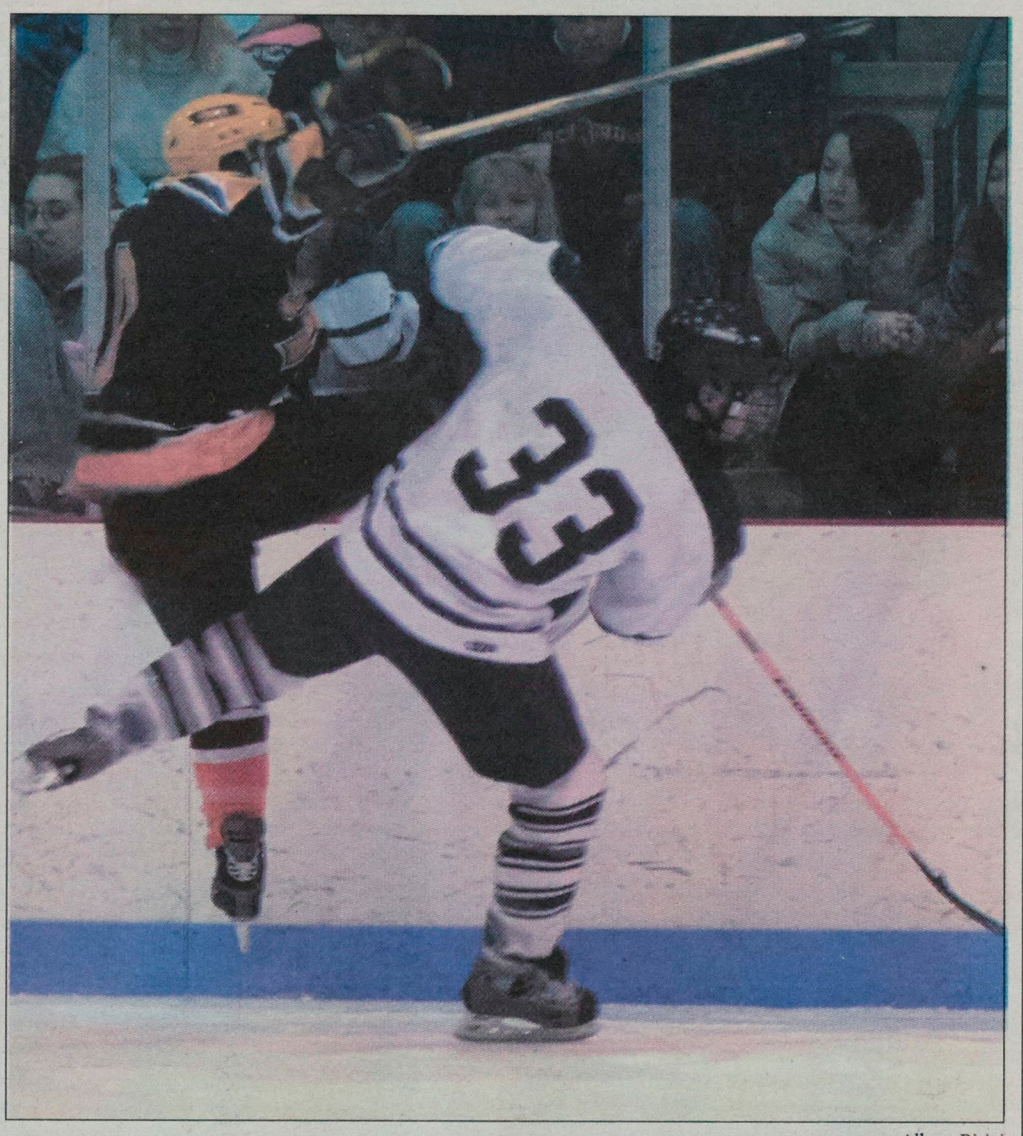
The atmosphere in Kenyon Arena was electric this past weekend. Every wide-eyed kid with an oversized, autographed Panther jersey, every life-long hockey fanatic with memories of many a championship and every rowdy, blue-and-white-faced Middlebury supporter knew. They all knew that these were the kind of games that determined the fate of a season. For those who weren't in attendance, the prognosis is good. With two indisputable victories over in-state foes St. Michael's and Norwich, the Panthers appear ready to fight for their first National Championship since 1999.

The action got under way on Friday night against the Purple Knights of St. Michael's. The Knights did not appear to be battle-ready as the Panthers established who would ultimately reign supreme in a convincing 6-1 victory. Middlebury put on quite a show that provided several highlights worthy of a place in the Sports Center top 10. Forty-four seconds into the second period, Darwin Hunt '07, who had two points on the night, found himself chasing down a defender in front of the St. Michael's net. Diving headlong towards the defender, Hunt redirected the puck with the shaft of his stick and sent it home for the tally.

The story of the night was the great play of hometown hero Levi Doria '05. With a goal and three assists, Doria led all scorers while receiving support from the local Middlebury and Ripton fans. Also, Yen-I Chen '06 was solid between the pipes, stopping 16 shots.

On to Saturday afternoon. Hours before the puck hit the ice, ticket lines snaked out to the parking lot, students geared up for a big one and the Panthers and the Cadets of Norwich buckled

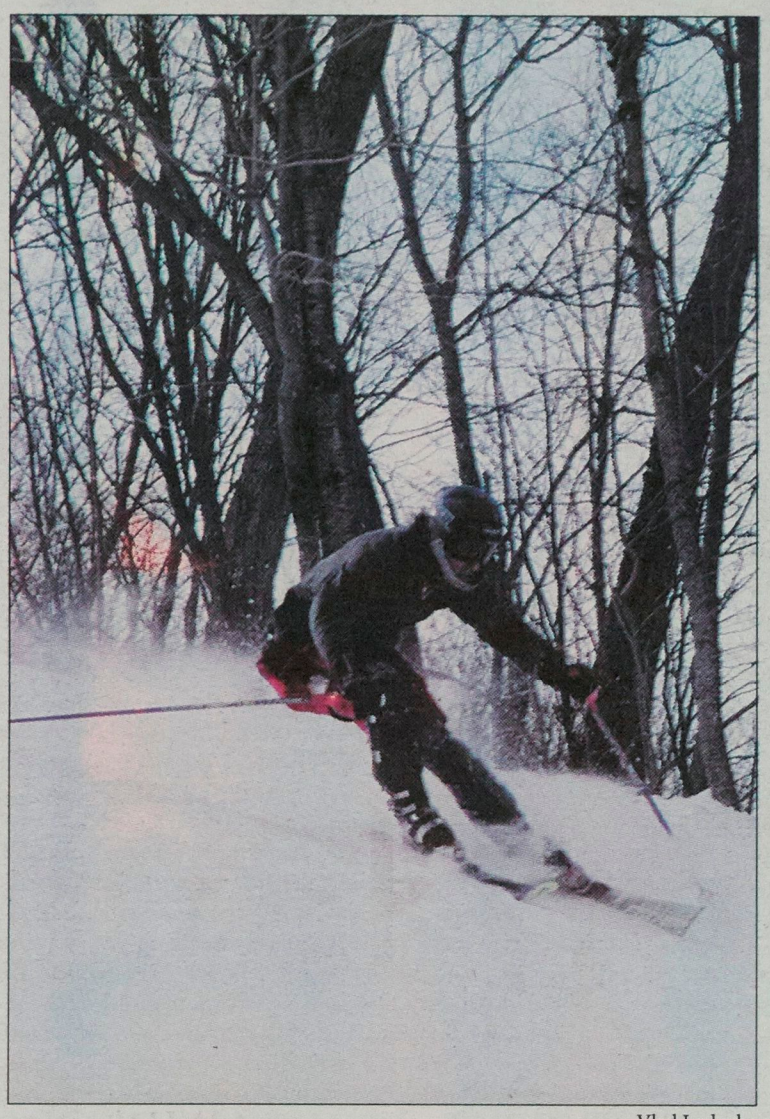
See Men's Hockey, page 24



Albert Bitici

**Brian Phinney '05 and the rest of the men's hockey team decked Norwich on Saturday 6-2. Phinney played strong defense on the day and contributed a goal of his own.**

# Ski teams secure fourth carnival win



Vlad Lodoaba

**After practicing on the slopes of the Snow Bowl all season, the alpine team will finally get the chance to compete there at this week's Carnival.**

By Sean Breen
*Staff Writer*

Back in stride after skipping a beat last week and placing third at Dartmouth, the Middlebury alpine and nordic ski teams won the Williams Carnival. It is the fourth time in five weeks the Panthers have finished on top. Middlebury finished with a combined score of 663 to beat the University of Vermont (UVM) (646) and Dartmouth (615).

On the nordic side, Middlebury dominated the women's 10K. The Panthers took third, fourth and fifth with veteran Kate Newick '04 leading the way with a time of 29: 55.9, followed by Claire Anderson '06 (30:11.7) and Kate Whitcomb '04 (30:13.6). Newick finished little more than a second behind the leader, Kate Underwood of the University of New Hampshire (UNH).

The nordic women also dominated the sprint relay race, winning with a time of 38:04.5, more than a second over their nearest rivals from UNH. The team of Newick, Whitcomb and Anderson blew away the field. UNH and Dartmouth (third) finished only a few seconds apart.

"Our team is psyched and ready for this weekend. Coming off such a good victory is a great way to come into this week's championship," said Newick.

In the men's 10K Middlebury finished with five skiers in the top 12. Garrot Kuzzy '06 continued his strong performance this year, placing second with a time of 25: 16.0, only 20 seconds off the leader. Marshall Greene '04 followed with a strong seventh place finish (26: 13.9). After that, the race was tight with Beau Baldock '07 finishing ninth (26:26.9), Colin Rodgers '04 in 11th (26:34.7) and Jake Whitcomb '06 close on his heels in 12th (26:35.5).

The trio of Kuzzy, Rodgers and Baldock finished off Middlebury's dominance on the nordic side by winning the sprint relay race. Not to be outdone by their women counterparts, the men finished nearly 50 seconds ahead of UVM, finishing with a combined time of 33:33.2.

On the alpine side, Middlebury had some strong skiing from sophomore David Coriell. Coriell placed third to cap one of his strongest showings on the Giant Slalom (GS) course this year. His time of 1: 53.92 was a second and a half off the leader, Matthew Knittle from UVM (1:52.58). Fred Emich '04 followed Coriell in ninth (1:45.08) and John Rusten '05 in 10th (1:54.62). In the Slalom, Rusten led the way, finishing seventh with a time of 1:45.08. Emich followed him in 10th (1: 46.02) and Eric Rygg '04 finished 16th (1:47.24).

"Our team is so much deeper this year," commented Coriell when

See Skiers, page 27

# Panthers swim to podium

By Emily Berlanstein
*Staff Writer*

Dressed in their lucky pink attire, the women's swimming and diving team traveled to Wesleyan last weekend for the NESCAC Championships.

Over the course of the weekend, the Middlebury women amassed 1,469 points, earning them second place to Williams' 1,711 points. The Panthers also set 10 varsity records and won NESCAC titles in three individual events and two relays in this impressive outing.

On the first day of the event, senior Taylor Bolz won the title in the 50-breaststroke and shattered the Wesleyan Pool Record with a time of 30.96 seconds. On Saturday, senior Kellianne Egan won the 1,000-freestyle in 10:37.96. Sunday saw Sarah Groff '04 dominate the 1,650-freestyle with a time of 17: 37.12.

The relay team of Barbara Van Der Veer '07, Martha Goebel '04, Teague Douglas '04 and Lizzy Dewitt '04, captured titles in the 200-freestyle relay and the 400-freestyle relay with times of 1:36.67 and 3:30.82, respectively. The foursome not only set a NESCAC meet record in the 400-relay but were able to achieve automatic NCAA qualification and a national ranking of third.

In addition to these accomplishments, record-setting performers included: Tessa Truex '05 in the 1-meter diving (386.40 points) and 3-meter diving (399.55 points), Bolz in the 100 (1:07.42) and 200 (2:23.52) breaststroke and Van Der Veer in the 100-freestyle (52.56). The 200-medley relay team of Dewitt, Bolz, Van Der Veer and Goebel, ranked fourth in the nation, received automatic NCAA qualification and also shattered the school record with a time of 1:47.89. The 400 medley relay of McKenna Moreau '06, Bolz, Douglas and Van Der Veer also earned a record-setting time of 3:59.46.

The women's Division III NCAA National Championships will take place March 11-13 in St. Peter's, Missouri. The tournament, hosted by Principia College, will welcome the Middlebury 400-freestyle relay and 200-medley "A" relay teams. Other relay teams vying for consideration are the 200-free relay (fifth in the nation), the 800 free relay (seventh in the nation), the 400-medley relay (13th in the nation) and the 200-medley "B" relay. Individuals receiving NCAA consideration are Bolz, DeWitt, Moreau, Groff, Egan, Van Der Veer, Truex, Leigh Bayer '05, Mollie Reed '06, Colleen Fitzharris '07 and Colleen Reynolds '06.

This weekend the men's team will travel to Brunswick, Maine. to compete at Bowdoin College for the NESCAC title.